

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1902.

SIXPENCE.

The Queen. The King. Mrs. Hardinge. Prince of Wales.

Mrs. Langtry.



ROYAL PATRONAGE OF THE IMPERIAL THEATRE: THE KING AND QUEEN AT THE PERFORMANCE OF MRS. LANGTRY'S PLAY, "THE CROSSWAYS," DECEMBER 8.

DRAWN BY S. BEGG.

The play, which is written by Mrs. Langtry and Mr. Hartley Manners, will be produced in America during the actress's forthcoming tour.

OUR NOTE BOOK.

BY L. F. AUSTIN.

I daresay Lord Kitchener is beset just now by urgent appeals from editors. "A review of De Wet's book from your pen"—I can imagine the editors telegraphing—"would excite tremendous interest." No doubt of that. Lord Kitchener has a remarkably lucid and pointed style, as his South African despatches have testified. He is familiar with many aspects of the great struggle, which are not quite plain even to the most redoubtable of the Boer chroniclers. He could tell De Wet, for instance, something about the block-houses. The blockhouse policy, says that warrior, was a "blockhead" policy. Somewhere in India at this moment Lord Kitchener is probably smiling rather grimly at this phrase. If he were a reviewer, he might ask how it was that after the execution of the "block-head" plan the Boer attacks on the railway grew so rare, and the British convoys were seldom meddled with. Yes, annotations of De Wet by Lord Kitchener, who, it may not be wholly superfluous to remark, was the victor of the campaign, would quicken the pulse of every sportsman. But we shall not get them. The English organiser of victory is quietly attending to another job, and leaving the literature of the South African War to people whom he has made our "fellow-subjects."

From a striking account of Lord Kitchener's personality in *Blackwood's* I gather that he does not love the pen for its own sweet sake. His literary implements for the Soudan Campaign consisted of a pencil, and a sheaf of telegraph-forms which he carried in his helmet. Official letters from distant busybodies he left unanswered. One of his officers was fond of writing orders; could not see how a campaign could be carried on without a daily flood of these compositions. He went into the tent of a subordinate one day and found two trays on a table, one empty and labelled "Business," the other full of papers and labelled "Bosh." "Excellent," he murmured; "Kitchener's methods"; but, on examining the "Bosh" department, he found it composed entirely of his own official missives. A native distaste for "bosh" is conjoined in Lord Kitchener with antipathy to "pets of society," and with the conviction that the War Office needs a drastic hand. The article in *Blackwood's* is written by one of his staff officers in Egypt, who tells us that he often talked to his staff "long, openly, and convincingly upon reforms needed in the War Office and the Army." If he was so trenchant in that vein on the Nile, what must he have been on the veldt! What does he say about the brain which the War Office is now expending on the design of scabbards, the shoulder-knot of the Volunteers, the nice white edging for the shoulder-straps of scarlet uniforms?

The writer in *Blackwood's* hopes to see Lord Kitchener appointed Chief of the Staff on his return from India—not Commander-in-Chief, nor Secretary of State. As Chief of the Staff, he should have "the sole, solitary, and exclusive duty of preparation for war." As Commander-in-Chief, he would have the ornamental figments he detests; as Secretary of State, he would become a "prey to party." But as Chief of the Staff, he would have parties under his thumb. If aided by "a good plain man of business, neither a 'genius' nor a talker, as Secretary of State, and granted powers to make his views known to the public on all large questions of high military policy, and to make them prevail," then Lord Kitchener would give the nation military security, and shear away "all those parasites which now clog our administration." No doubt; but first of all, he would make the British Constitution his washpot, and over Downing Street he would cast out his shoe. For such a Chief of the Staff, in direct touch with public opinion, and treating his "good plain man of business" as a Parliamentary mouthpiece, would sadly interfere with what is called Ministerial responsibility. The good plain man would have a dreadful time in debate; he would be called Lord Kitchener's clerk and other pleasant names. Nervous persons who shrieked with alarm at the idea of a soldier as Minister of War would have convulsions if they found the Chief of the Staff expounding high military policy to the nation without the least regard for the convenience of party leaders in office. But when Lord Kitchener does come to Pall Mall he will not toy with scabbards, and set the pet parasites scribbling about nice white edging. This is not "preparation for war." His duty, in whatever titular capacity he may do it, must transform the War Office, and that cannot be done without some awful havoc among the precedents.

Life's little ironies are much appreciated by President Castro of Venezuela. He likes foreigners to prosper in his Republic, in order that they may pay the costs of revolutions. Any Venezuelan gentleman who has a mind to be President can always levy tribute from the foreign traders to supply the sinews of war. They are tired of contributing to this recreation, and so the might of England and Germany intervenes. The ingenious Castro ought to appeal to those philosophers who are fond of assuming that the weaker side is eternally right. He

would have no difficulty in framing a familiar case. Foreign capitalists in Venezuela are full of greed, and always conspiring against the Republic. Why has not President Castro sent emissaries to Europe (at the expense of the capitalists) to spread this doctrine? I fear he has neglected his opportunities, and that, even if he should retire into exile and publish his memoirs, he will get little sympathy from the civilised world. On the whole, the Grand Lama of Tibet is a wiser man, for he will not admit any European to the city of "the holy books," not even a conscientious geographer like Dr. Sven Hedin.

I heard a lecture this week by an accomplished war-correspondent who was in Ladysmith during the siege. With the help of the magic-lantern he made life in the beleaguered town remarkably vivid, especially to a number of schoolboys in short jackets and large white collars. They followed attack and defence with impartial interest. Is it not the nature of the "soaring human boy" to revel in pluck, by whomsoever manifested? When the lecturer descanted on the exploits of our naval guns the boys were much excited; and when the magic-lantern (which did not, as in the days of my boyhood, indulge in pranks, but followed the lecturer with canine fidelity) showed the bridge which was destroyed by the third shot from a gun at a range of nearly eight miles, nothing but the dignity of large white collars prevented these young Britons from jumping wildly into the air. There was a subsequent complaint, I believe, that the destructive instinct of the boy should have been heated by such an illustration of the malevolent science of war. Fortunately there are entertainments which minister to a higher passion. There is a play, for instance, in which the hero, although he carries a revolver in his hip-pocket, and has it frequently in his hand; never shoots. There comes the inevitable moment when he is at grips with the villain, and then he declines the aid of any weapon, and with his bare hands encounters a desperado armed with a knife. I hope those boys in their large white collars will be taken by parents and guardians to witness that improving spectacle. But I should not like to predict that it will favourably impress them.

A misanthropic gentleman, who has reprinted some slashing papers from a magazine, has thought it worth while to commit to posterity a terrible indictment of a certain inoffensive club, which is in the habit of entertaining men of arts and letters at dinner. When I read this in the magazine long ago, I thought that the misanthrope might have dined on one of these occasions, and disagreed with the viands. Some men can forgive your opinions, however heretical, but cannot forgive your cookery. But as the indictment has reappeared, and has greatly edified certain solemn reviewers, I fear there is something wrong with the gentleman's head, not with his digestion. He says the dinners are "always the signal for a public outburst of enthusiasm" (which is odd, considering that they have languished in comfortable privacy for years); and that the members of the club "sit with vine-leaves or some other vegetable encircling their scanty locks." I fear the misanthrope is short-sighted, or he would be more positive. He would know that the vegetable in question is actually the cauliflower, which the members wear as often as this critic sits with straws in his abundant hair. "Scanty" is an epithet much admired by one solemn reviewer, evidently as a stroke of original humour. Allowance must be made for him, as precious little fun comes in his way, and the history of ancient jests is not among his works of reference. But I commend to his notice the story of the Irishman at the fair, when wigs were on the green, who said, "There's a bald head, Tim; hit it!" Only I assure him that the sconces of the club are unhurt. You see, they are protected by the cauliflowers.

The misanthrope has more bees in his bonnet (his blue bonnet, I may remark, is published "over the Border"); for he proceeds, much to the contentment of the aforesaid reviewer, to a really blasting anathema: "It is another symptom of the prevailing Anarchy that a lettered club can so blindly overlook the claims of proportion as to believe that paltry garlands, publicly worn, are a fitting tribute to the memory of a dignified recluse." The "dignified recluse" was an Oriental poet who flourished a thousand years ago, and whose verse has been interpreted and embellished in a modern English classic. It exemplifies the monastic life by singing the praises of wine and dropping tender allusions to the fair. These austere characteristics form the subject of dissertation when the members don the "paltry garlands" which are gracefully tied round the cauliflower. Perhaps the misanthrope is only figurative, and means the courteous greetings which are accorded to the guests of the club, who often happen to be rather distinguished persons. Is it possible that his garland was overlooked, or was not to his taste; that, like the halo of the irreverent American humourist, it did not fit? Did no nimbus appropriate to his merits surround his well-thatched head? Nay, can it be that he has never been invited at all? In such a state the best of men have been known to suffer hallucinations, and see naught around them but "prevailing Anarchy."

PARLIAMENT.

The Lords read the Education Bill a second time after a debate which was not remarkable for novelty. It was contended by the Duke of Devonshire that the best compromise had been made among conflicting interests, a point that was disputed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London on behalf of the Voluntary schools. The Bishop of London viewed the Kenyon-Slaney subsection with indignation, but Lord Rosebery held that it had been hailed with relief by the great mass of the laity. He believed that the Government had chosen the worst of all the alternatives. They would have been better advised to adopt the Colonial system; and even the Scottish system, which gave denominational education according to the wishes of a majority, would have been more welcome to the Nonconformists than this Bill. The Bishop of Manchester denied that the Bill endowed the Church and the Roman Catholics. Assignment of rates and taxes for educational purposes, when secular education was under popular control, could not be called endowment. The Bishop of Hereford, who voted against the second reading, said there was no popular control. From any educational point of view the Bill was bad; it was detested by a large body of the people, and he would cheerfully see it die. In Committee, Dr. Perceval proposed an amendment to make the denominational managers of a Voluntary school two instead of four. This was rejected; but an amendment of Lord Goschen's was accepted, empowering the local authority to permit denominational teaching in all schools, if desired, by the parents, and at the cost of the denominations.

In the Commons, Mr. Balfour announced the British and German intervention in Venezuela, and the House discussed the London Water Bill.

WALKING WEATHER.

A light hoar frost has shaken out a silken garment, embroidered with a myriad crystals, over all the fields. There is nothing which has escaped, save the perpendicular black elms. Each glossy privet-leaf—the only green leaf in the hedge—is edged with frost; every grass-blade glitters; and the dead, grey stems of the wild parsnip sprout again with umbels of dazzling efflorescence. The cantering weasel is wreathed in an iridescent cloud as he shakes the loaded grass. Even the sun for a moment is clothed by the power of the frost, and just as it surmounts the hill seems to wear an ample hoary beard. Ivy-leaves are newly polished by the melting rime; and under the resulting moisture the contrast between the pale green of the veins and the darker portion of the surface is more pleasing than ever before. The tiny rain-pools at our feet shine with transparent panes of ice marked by innumerable zig-zagged lines.

From the swift-flowing stream, whose shallow waters keep the green "river-moss" in a continual swirl, a thin wreathing vapour is rising, almost veiling the old willow trunk that leans from bank to bank a stone's-throw higher up. A silence that is all but unbroken reigns over the meadows and the wayside coppices. No song is heard; only an occasional flutter as the starlings speed overhead or when a blackbird hastens into cover. The robin, by whose carol the dreariest winter days are often cheered, is hushed; and the thrush, more fickle far, is still. But there is no lack of busy movement; be the weather ill or fine, breakfast—the birds' most serious meal—must be sought, and on every side feathered woodlanders are flying to their hunting-ground. The hedgesparrow and robin, the boldest of small birds, are content to search the open hedges alongside the road, venturing also into the middle of the track, or where, at the edges of the road, a slight rain-worn groove is overhung by dying grasses. The rustling of their tiny wings as they wander about the hazels or the bramble thicket is ever close at hand; and many a worm, even in this hard soil, rewards the eager beak. The blackbird needs to be approached with greater caution, foraging as he does in the more secluded coppice, and seldom lingering in the hedge-row, where his dark, bold form could not for long remain unseen. Before he is in sight his presence is announced by a sound which is perhaps characteristic of the blackbird in late autumn and winter. Straying, always alone, he seems to delight in the ghostly rustle of his feet among the crisp fallen-leaves, and by this habit he is oftentimes betrayed, when otherwise screened by thick cover. Of the larger birds, a jackdaw alone is heard, "jacking" in his flight high over the tallest trees, but unseen in the thick mist. Sparrows, silently scouring the hedges and open meadow, crowd everywhere, finding shelter with nightfall in the rickyard by yonder hill.

This narrow Surrey lane winds steeply down towards a narrow valley through a broad slope of deserted meadow-land; then, rising again where a cluster of elms marks the middle distance, it climbs, with redoubled windings, the opposite hill. Sentinel beeches stand on either side the way, and below them a hedge of hazel, broad almost as a coppice, obscures the view into the fields. Long arms of oak meet and interweave across the road, hung with ivy so bright and fresh as to produce the illusion of spring leaves. From these oaks, as we pass beneath them, ringdoves shoot out and seek a distant wood with swift arrow-flight. As we walk, day fades into night, and finches are crowding to where the cover is densest; robins no longer stir in the hedges; the blackbird is settling down by the ash-stoles or the thicker clumps of thorn; and partridges glide, with wings curved to a crescent, over the lane and settle among the furrows. Everywhere the field-creatures are composing themselves for sleep. At length the twilight hum is silenced with the darkness.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS, 1902.

ADDITIONAL ORDINARY TRAINS.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 23 and 24, relief trains will be run from St. Pancras and other parts of the Midland System as circumstances may require.

DECEMBER 26 AND JANUARY 1.

On these dates certain booked trains will be WITHDRAWN, as announced in the Midland Time Tables and by special bills at the stations.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR EXCURSIONS FROM ST. PANCRAS, CITY STATIONS, WOOLWICH, AND GREENWICH.

TO THE NORTH AND SCOTLAND.

On WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24, for 4, 5, or 7 days, and WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25, for 4 or 7 days, to NEWCASTLE, Berwick, Carlisle, Dumfries, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, GLASGOW, EDINBURGH, Ayr, Kilmarnock, Stranraer, &c., from St. Pancras at 10 p.m., Kentish Town 10.5, and Victoria (S.E. & C.) at 8.3 p.m., and to Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Arbroath, Montrose, Aberdeen, &c., leaving ST. PANCRAS at 9.15 p.m., Kentish Town 8.44, and Victoria (S.E. & C.) 7.2 p.m. Passengers will also be booked from Moorgate Street, Aldersgate Street, and Farringdon Street by any Midland or Metropolitan train to King's Cross or Kentish Town to join these trains at St. Pancras or Kentish Town.

RETURN TICKETS at about a THIRD CLASS SINGLE FARE for the DOUBLE JOURNEY will be issued by the trains to the places mentioned, available for return on any day within 16 days from and including date of issue.

TO PROVINCIAL TOWNS, ETC.

On WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24, to Leicester, BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, Derby, Newark, Lincoln, Burton, MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, Blackburn, Bolton, SHEFFIELD, LEEDS, BRADFORD, York, Scarborough, Newcastle, Barrow-in-Furness, the Lake District, &c., returning Dec. 27, 28 (where train service permits), 29, 1902, or Jan. 1, 1903.

On WEDNESDAY (midnight), DEC. 24, to LEICESTER, NOTTINGHAM, MANCHESTER, STOCKPORT, WARRINGTON, LIVERPOOL, SHEFFIELD, LEEDS, BRADFORD, &c., returning on Dec. 26, 27, 28, 29, 1902, or Jan. 1, 1903.

On FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 26, from St. Pancras and City Stations, to LEICESTER, Loughborough, and NOTTINGHAM, for 1, 2, or 3 days; to BEDFORD, WELLS, Kettering, and MARKET HARBOUR, for 1 or 2 days; and to ST. ALBANS, HARPENDEN, and LUTON for 1 day.

TO IRELAND.

There will also be cheap excursions to DUBLIN, Ballina, Galway, Sligo, Cork, Killybegs, Limerick, via Morecambe on Dec. 22, and via Liverpool on Dec. 23; to BELFAST, Londonderry, Portrush, &c., via Barrow and via Liverpool, on Dec. 23; and to Londonderry, via Liverpool on Dec. 22, or via Morecambe, on Dec. 23. See bills for times of return.

WEEK-ENDS IN THE COUNTRY.

CHEAP EXCURSION TICKETS to BEDFORD, *OLNEY, WELLINGBOROUGH, and KETTERING, available for Half, Two, or Three Days, are issued EVERY SATURDAY until further notice from ST. PANCRAS, Moorgate Street, Aldersgate Street, Farringdon Street, King's Cross (Met.), Camden Road, and Kentish Town, as per bills.

* Half-day bookings to Olney from St. Pancras only.

TO SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

Cheap day excursion tickets on Sundays and Christmas Day; and cheap week-end tickets on Fridays and Saturdays will be issued to Southend-on-Sea, as announced by Special Bills. These tickets are available at Leigh and Westcliff-on-Sea.

CHEAP WEEK-END TICKETS.

Cheap week-end tickets will be issued on Fridays, Dec. 19 and 26, and Saturdays, Dec. 20 and 27, from LONDON (ST. PANCRAS) and other MIDLAND STATIONS to the Principal Holiday and Health Resorts.

WINTER TOURIST TICKETS

are also issued to numerous places in England and Wales.

TICKETS, PROGRAMMES, AND BILLS

may be had at the MIDLAND STATIONS and CITY BOOKING OFFICES, and from Thos. Cook and Son, Ludgate Circus, and Branch Offices.

EXCURSIONS FROM THE PROVINCES.

EXCURSION TRAINS will be run from Leicester, NOTTINGHAM, BIRMINGHAM, Derby, MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, Sheffield, LEEDS, BRADFORD, and other principal towns to EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, and ALL PARTS OF SCOTLAND for the Christmas and New Year Holidays. NUMEROUS OTHER CHEAP EXCURSIONS have been arranged from the chief Midland Stations, particulars of which may be had on application. JOHN MATHIESON, General Manager.

ROYAL BRITISH MAIL ROUTE VIA HARWICH-HOOK OF HOLLAND

DAILY (Sundays included) SERVICE TO THE CONTINENT.

QUICKEST ROUTE TO HOLLAND AND CHEAPEST TO GERMANY.

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HARWICH-ANTWERP ROUTE Every Week-day.

From London (Liverpool Street Station) at 8.30 p.m., for the Hook of Holland, and at 8.40 p.m. for Antwerp. Direct Service to Harwich, from Scotland, the North and Midlands. Restaurant Car between York and Harwich.

The Great Eastern Railway Company's Steamers are steel twin-screw vessels lighted throughout by electricity, and sail under the British Flag.

Particulars of the Continental Manager, Liverpool Street Station, London, E.C.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

WINTER HEALTH RESORTS.

TOURIST TICKETS.

EXPRESS TRAINS. ACCELERATED SERVICE. WEEK-DAYS.

	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	Midnight.
PADDINGTON	dep.	7.25	9.0	10.40	11.35	11.45	2.55	6.25
Torquay	arr.	1.30	3.1	—	4.18	5.27	7.37	11.28
Newquay	—	—	6.23	—	8.38	—	—	9.55
Falmouth	—	—	6.37	—	8.58	11.3	—	7.3
St. Ives	—	—	7.12	—	9.32	—	—	7.35
Penzance	—	—	7.5	—	9.23	—	—	7.30

* LUNCHEON CAR, LONDON to EXETER. ** DINING CAR, LONDON to BRISTOL. † SLEEPING CARS (First Class) are run on these Trains. ‡ Arrives 9.14 a.m. Sunday Mornings. * Sunday Mornings excepted.

These places afford the invalid a choice of equable climates, without the drawbacks of long and fatiguing travel and foreign languages.

TREGENNA CASTLE HOTEL, ST. IVES, CORNWALL, is under the management of the Great Western Railway Company.

J. L. WILKINSON, General Manager.

LONDON BRIGHTON AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

	B	C	D	E	F	G	D	H
Victoria	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Kennington	9.25	10.5	10.40	11.0	11.5	11.15	11.40	12.15
London Bridge	—	—	9.25	—	—	—	11.15	—

* (Addition Road.) B.—Eastbourne, Sundays & Christmas Day, 10s. 1st Class. C.—Week-Days, 12s. Brighton, 13s. Worthing (Pullman Car to Brighton). D.—Saturdays, 10s. 6d. 1st Cl. Brighton. E.—Brighton (Pullman Limited), Sundays & Christmas Day, 12s. Brighton & Worthing. F.—Brighton & Worthing, Sundays & Christmas Day, 10s. 1st, 12s. (Pullman Car to Brighton). G.—Eastbourne, Sundays & Christmas Day, Pullman Car, 12s. H.—Brighton, Sundays & Christmas Day, 10s. 1st Cl., 12s. Pullman Car.

WEEK-END TICKETS to all South Coast Seaside Places from London & Suburban Stations, Fridays, Saturdays, & Sundays.

Details of Supt. of the Line, London Bridge Terminus.

GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

A.B.C. PROGRAMME OF EXCURSION ARRANGEMENTS from LONDON (MARLBOROUGH), Woolwich, Greenwich, and Metropolitan Stations, to the MIDLANDS, NORTH OF ENGLAND and IRELAND can be obtained free on application at Marlborough Station, or at any of the Company's Town Offices and Agencies.

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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

EXCURSION TO PARIS, via Southampton, Havre, and Rouen, on Dec. 23, 24, and 25, for 14 days or less, from LONDON (WATERLOO) and certain Suburban Stations. RETURN FARES, First Class, 39s. 3d.; Second Class, 30s. 3d.; and Third Class, 26s.

ADDITIONAL AND LATE TRAINS conveying Passengers at Ordinary Fares will leave WATERLOO STATION as under—
At 9.50 p.m. for WEYMOUTH, on Dec. 22, 23, 24, and 26; and at 8.30 p.m. on Christmas Day.

ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23.

At 11.45 p.m. for Salisbury, Yeovil, EXETER, and intermediate Stations; also BARNSTAPLE, Ilfracombe, Bideford, Okehampton, Bude, LAUNCESTON, Wadebridge, BODMIN, Tavistock, Devonport, PLYMOUTH, and other Stations in Devon and Cornwall.

ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24.

At 5.40, 5.50 p.m., and 1.0 Midnight for EXETER, Crediton, Okehampton, TAVISTOCK, Devonport, PLYMOUTH, and certain intermediate Stations.
At 5.50 p.m. and 12.55 Midnight for BARNSTAPLE, Ilfracombe, Bideford, TORRINGTON, and other North Devon Stations.

At 10.45 p.m. for SALISBURY, Yeovil Junction, EXETER, &c.; also CHARD, Seaton, SIDMOUTH, Budleigh Salterton, and EXMOUTH Branches.

At 10.40 p.m. for Basingstoke, Andover Junction, SALISBURY, Senley, Templecombe, Shepton Mallet, Radstock, BATH, Sherborne, YEOWIL, &c.

At 12.45 Midnight for LAUNCESTON, Bude, Holsworthy, Camelford, Wadebridge, BODMIN, Padstow &c.

At 12.20 p.m. for SOUTHAMPTON WEST and BOURNEMOUTH.

At 3.25 p.m. for GUILDFORD, Petersfield, PORTSMOUTH, &c.

At 4.5 p.m. DIRECT EXPRESS to BOURNEMOUTH.

At 10.5 p.m. for Basingstoke, Eastleigh, Brockenhurst, Christchurch, BOURNEMOUTH, Poole, SWANAGE, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH, &c.

ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

At 5.50 a.m. for EXETER, Tavistock, Devonport, PLYMOUTH, Ilfracombe, BARNSTAPLE, Torrington, Bideford, Honiton, Axminster, YEOWIL, Salisbury, SOUTHAMPTON WEST, Brockenhurst, BOURNEMOUTH, Poole, SWANAGE, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH, &c.

At 7.55 a.m. for Christchurch, BOURNEMOUTH, Lymington, Yarmouth, Botley, Fareham, Gosport, PORTSMOUTH, Romsey, ISLE OF WIGHT, &c.

At 7.55 and 9.45 a.m. for Farnborough, Basingstoke, WINCHESTER, Eastleigh, SOUTHAMPTON, &c.

At 8.35 a.m. for GUILDFORD, Petersfield, PORTSMOUTH, &c.

* Convey Third Class Passengers only.

For full particulars of Special Arrangements, altered working of Ordinary Trains, &c., during the Holidays, see bills, programmes, &c., to be obtained at the Company's Stations and Offices, or from Mr. Henry Holmes, Superintendent of the Line, Waterloo Station, S.E.

CHAS. J. OWENS, General Manager.

GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

EXCURSIONS FROM LONDON (Liverpool St. and Great Eastern Suburban Stations).

ON WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24, to Cambridge, Wisbech, Lynn, Fakenham, Norwich, Ipswich, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Cromer; also Spalding, Lincoln, Sheffield, Manchester, Doncaster, Leeds, Bradford, York, Scarborough, Newcastle, and other of the principal stations in the Eastern Counties, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Lancashire, North Eastern District, &c.

ON DEC. 24 and 31, to North Eastern Stations and Scotland.

RELIEVING TRAINS.

ON DEC. 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27, Relieving Trains will precede some of the principal ordinary Trains.

SPECIAL TRAINS

will be run from London (Liverpool Street) as under—

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24.

At 8.10 a.m. to Colchester, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Beccles, Lowestoft, Yarmouth, &c.

At 8.57 a.m. to Cambridge, Ely, Brandon, Thetford, Wymondham, Norwich, &c.

At 1.30 p.m. to Colchester, Clacton-on-Sea, Ipswich, Norwich, Cromer, Beccles, Lowestoft, Yarmouth, &c.

At 7.12 p.m. to Ipswich, Diss, Tivetshall, Norwich, Woodbridge, Saxmundham, Halesworth, Beccles, Lowestoft, Yarmouth, &c.

At 9.25 p.m. to Southend-on-Sea, Braintree, Maldon, Colchester, Ipswich, &c.

SPECIAL MIDNIGHT TRAINS.

At 12.20 night to Norwich, Wells, Lowestoft, and Yarmouth, via Cambridge.

At 12.25 night to Yarmouth and Lowestoft, via Ipswich.

At 12.35 night to Colchester, Clacton-on-Sea, Ipswich, Bury St. Edmunds and Norwich, calling at the principal intermediate Stations.

CHRISTMAS DAY, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25.

At 5.8 a.m. to Brentwood, Chelmsford, Witham, Colchester, Manningtree and Ipswich.

At 8.5 a.m. to Bishops Cleeve, Braintree, Saffron Walden, Haverhill, Cambridge, Newmarket, Bury, Mildenhall, St. Ives, Ramsey, Peterborough, Wisbech, Lynn, Hunstanton, Swadlow, Dereham, Wells, Wymondham, Thetford, Norwich, &c.

At 9.4 a.m. to Colchester, Sudbury, Bury, Brightlingsea, Ipswich, Eye, Woodbridge, Wickham Market, Framlingham, Saxmundham, Aldeburgh, Halesworth, Beccles, Bungay, Lowestoft, Yarmouth, &c.

For full particulars see bills and pamphlets.

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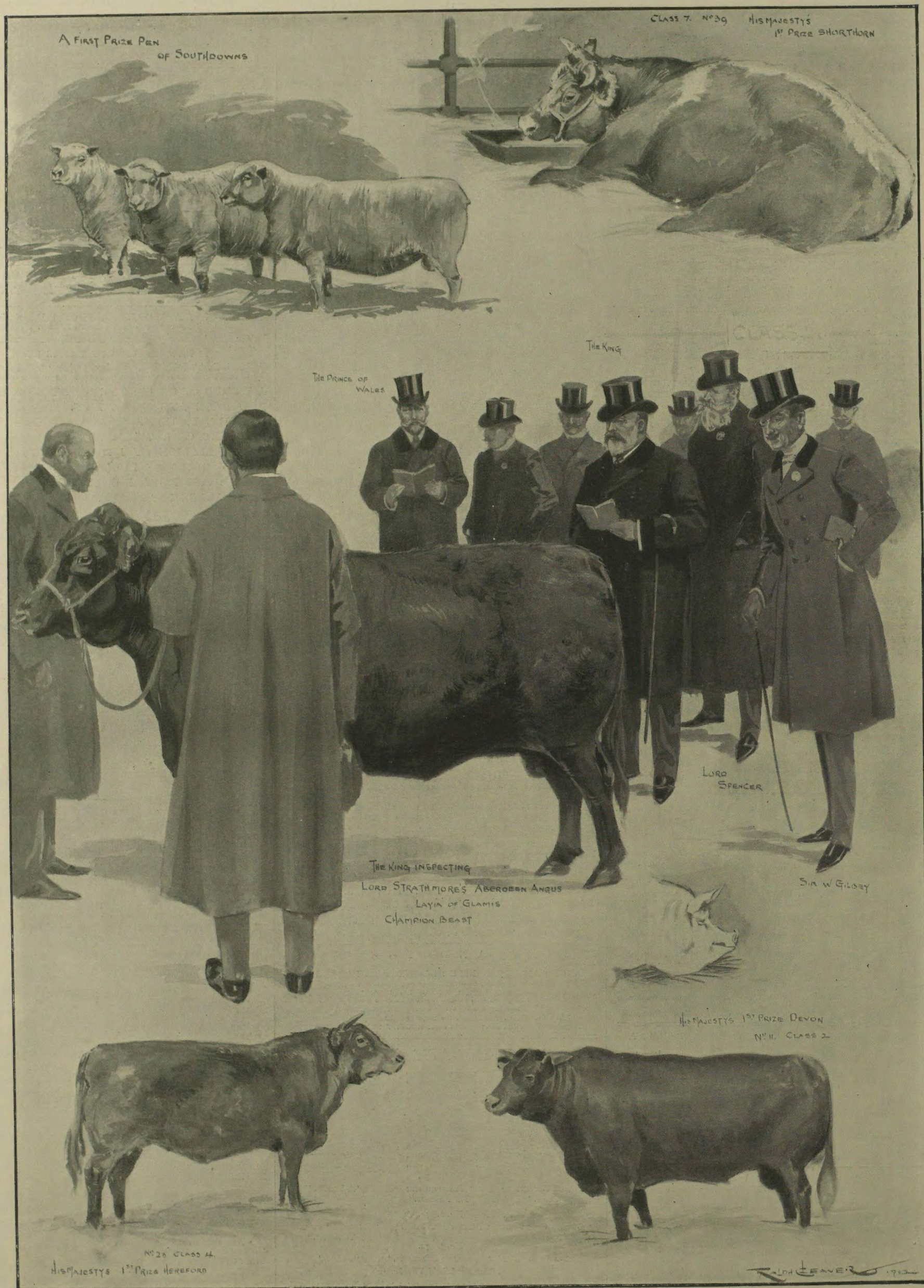
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THREE CENTURIES IN NORTH OXFORDSHIRE.

THE 104TH ANNUAL SHOW OF THE SMITHFIELD CLUB.

DRAWN BY RALPH CLEAVER.



THE KING AND THE PRINCE OF WALES VISITING THE SHOW AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL, DECEMBER 8.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE ASSOUAN DAM.

Wednesday, Dec. 10, marked an extraordinary epoch in the history of the Nile, for it saw the formal inauguration

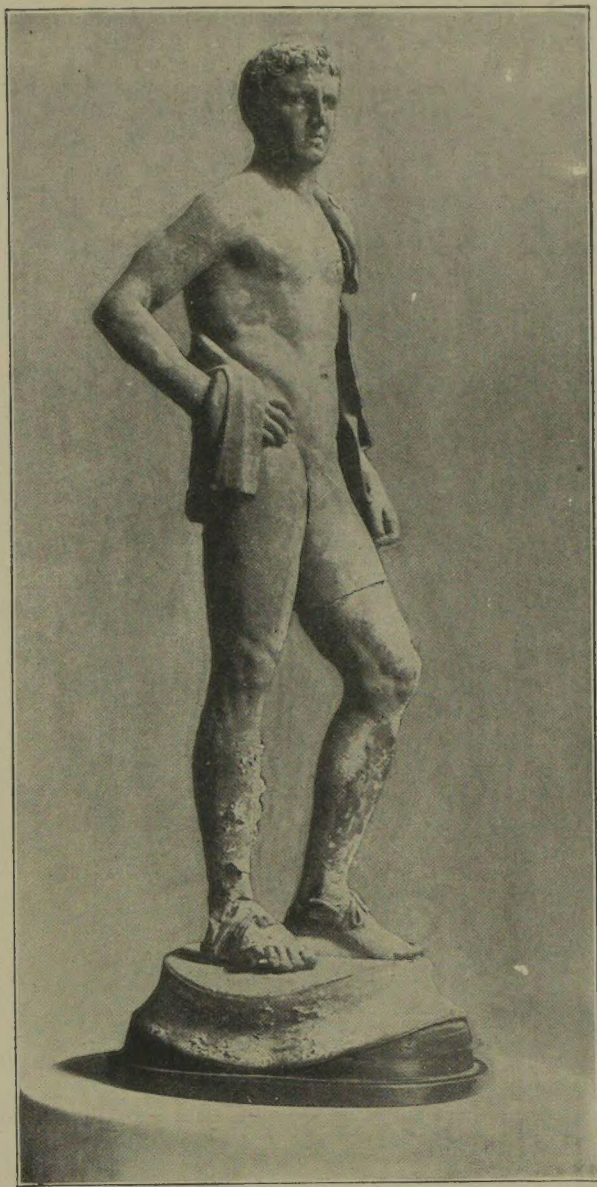


Photo. Abeniagar, Rome.

A RECENT DISCOVERY AT POMPEII: THE STATUE OF PERSEUS.

This magnificent relic of ancient art is to find a place in the Museum at Naples by the side of the celebrated statue of Narcissus.

of the great engineering works which will increase the fertility of Lower Egypt, and render it independent of the caprices of the ancient river. The work is in two portions, and consists of the barrage at Assiout, about 250 miles above Cairo, and the great dam and reservoir at Assouan, 350 miles farther up. The works at Assiout were begun in the winter of 1898 by Sir John Aird and Co., and were completed in the spring of the present year. The total length of the structure is 2750 ft., or rather more than half a mile, and it includes 111 arched openings of 16 ft. 4 in. span, which can be closed by steel sluice-gates 16 ft. high. The object of the Assiout barrage is to improve the present perennial irrigation of lands in Middle Egypt and the Fayoum and to bring an additional area of about 300,000 acres under irrigation by throwing more water at a higher level into the great Ibrahimiyyeh Canal. It is forty years since Sir Samuel Baker suggested a series of dams across the Nile to form reservoirs from Khartoum downwards. The great work, he said, might be commenced by a single dam above the First Cataract at Assouan, at a spot where the river is walled in by granite hills. By raising the level of the Nile sixty feet, obstructions would be buried in the depths of the river, and sluice-gates and canals would conduct the shipping up and down the stream. It is this scheme that has now in effect been carried to a successful issue. The Assouan Dam, which is an imposing structure, is a mile and a quarter in length, and is pierced with 180 sluice-openings, 23 ft. high by 6 ft. 6 in. wide, through which 15,000 tons of water can be discharged per second. The preliminary survey, which was made by Mr. Willcocks and other Government engineers, occupied four years. It was believed that sound rock existed upon which the foundations could be laid in the bed of the river, but

unfortunately a great deal of it was discovered to be so rotten that the foundations of the dam had, in certain cases, to be carried down forty feet deeper than was originally provided for in the contract. Those who knew the river at Assouan before the works were begun could scarcely have believed it possible that the colossal foundations could be laid below the seemingly irresistible torrents, but by means of rubble and sandbag dams large tracks of comparatively still water were obtained, and pumps were placed in position to lay bare the bed of the river. The dam was built of local granite set in Portland cement mortar; the interior is of rubble, and all the facework of coarse rock-faced ashlar, except the sluice-linings, which are finely dressed. Navigation is provided for by a "ladder" of four locks, each 260 ft. long by 32 ft. wide. When the river is rising, the sluices will be left open, but after the flood, when the discharge has fallen to two thousand tons per second, the gates will be closed, so that between December and March the huge Assouan reservoir, containing over a thousand million tons of water, will be gradually filled. Sir Benjamin Baker, consulting engineer to the works, has been created K.C.B., and Mr. Willcocks has been created K.C.M.G.

The wonderful ruins on the Island of Philae, above Assouan, are not, as we have elsewhere explained, seriously threatened by the rising of the Nile waters caused by the Assouan Dam. These remains consist briefly of a small but very picturesque temple of the Greek and Roman period, a huge Temple of Isis (founded by Nectanebo, who flourished about 370 B.C.), a small Temple of Athor, and other remains of minor importance. The Island of Philae was famous in Egyptian mythology as the burial-place of Osiris.

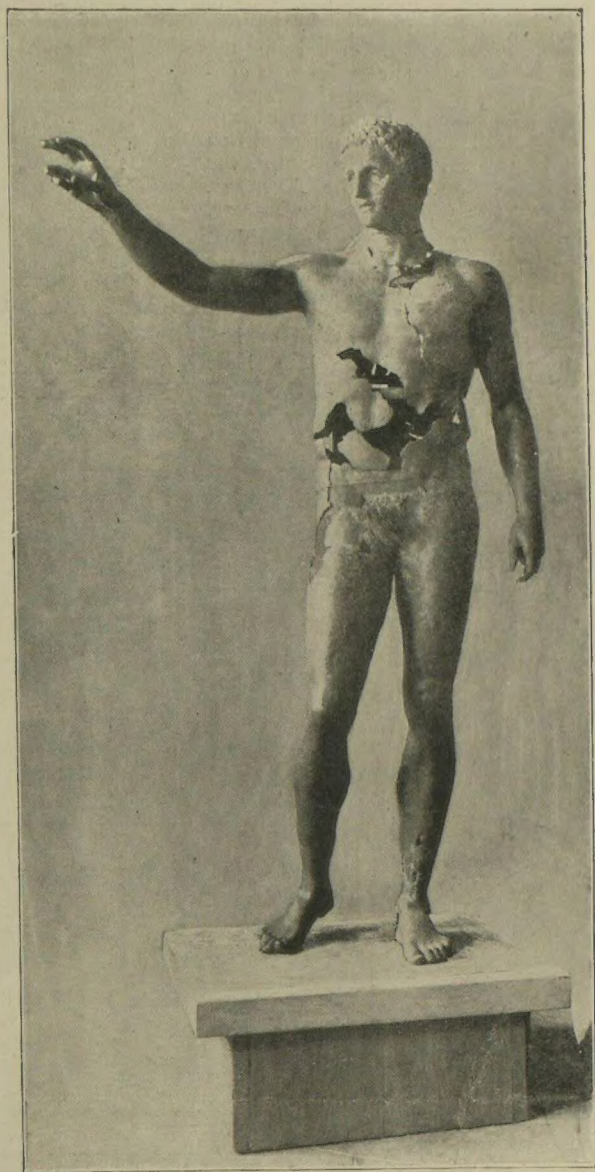
SMITHFIELD CLUB SHOW AT ISLINGTON.

The King and the Prince of Wales not only exhibited at the hundred and fourth annual exhibition of Christmas fat stock, opened at the Royal Agricultural Hall on Dec. 8, but visited it on the first day, making a tour of the show and watching the judging for the championships. His Majesty was very successful, his entries from the royal herds at Windsor and Sandringham taking eight first prizes, five second prizes, one third, three reserve cards, and several minor awards. In addition to these his Majesty won the breeds cup for the best Devon, Hereford, and Shorthorn; and with his Hereford steer secured the £25 silver cup for the best beast under two years old in the show. The Prince of Wales was awarded a second prize in the two to three year olds, for a red-polled steer, and took the second prize and a reserve card for the best red-polled beast. Prince Christian secured the prize for the best pig in the show with a splendid Berkshire. The Aberdeen Angus heifer, Layia of Glamis, bred and shown by Lord Strathmore, won the champion plate of 100 guineas and the King's challenge cup for the best beast on exhibition.

THE KING AT THE PLAY.

A dramatic première at which the critics were requested not to criticise might, on a superficial view, be taken as

having something to do with a recent famous decision in the law courts, but the first production in London of "The Crossways," given by Mrs. Langtry at the Imperial Theatre on the evening of Dec. 8 was freed from the tyranny of criticism simply and solely because the event was social. The King and Queen honoured the



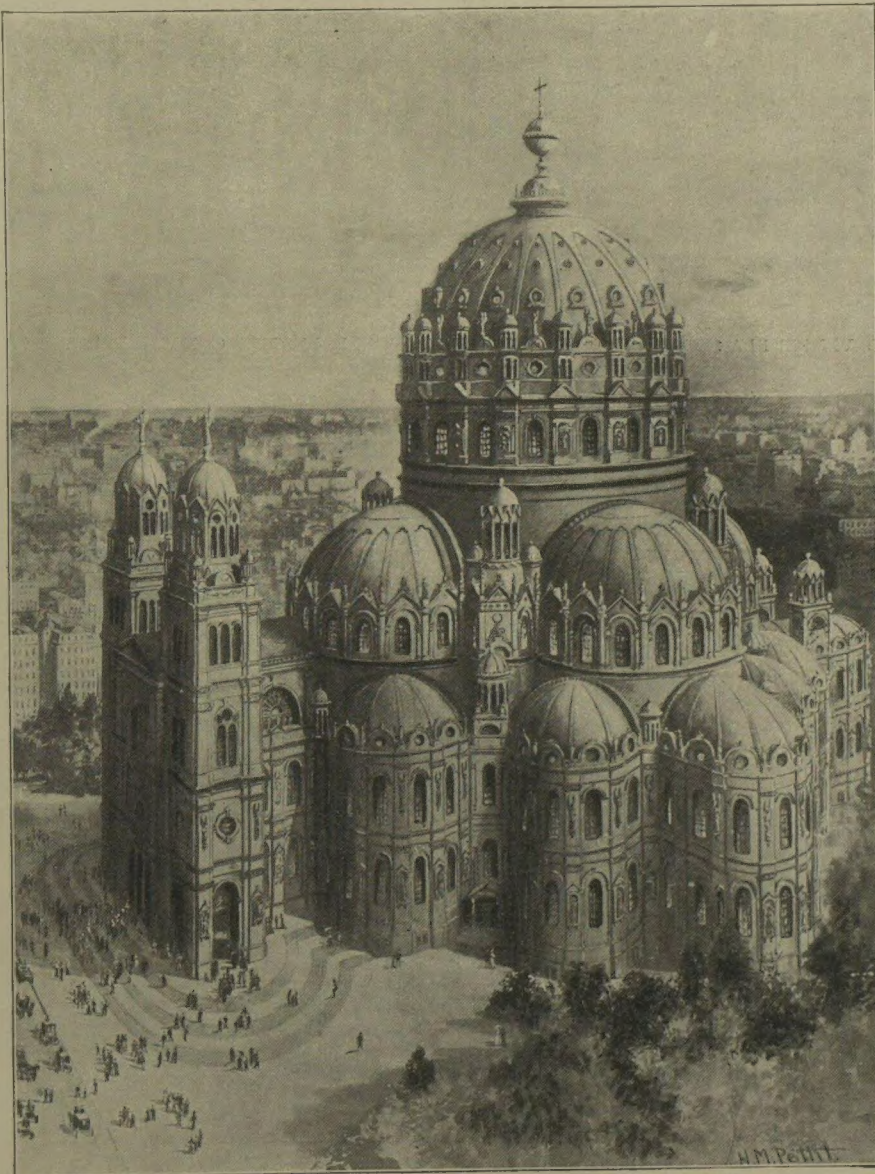
A WONDERFUL RESTORATION: A STATUE OF PERSEUS, RECONSTRUCTED FROM FRAGMENTS.

This magnificent Perseus in bronze, recovered from the sea at Antikythera, has been reconstructed by M. André.

actress, who, with Mr. J. Hartley Manners, is the author of the piece, with their presence. Their Majesties occupied the royal box, to which they were accompanied by the Prince of Wales. A very distinguished company filled the house, but it cannot be said that the production evoked any great enthusiasm. Their Majesties remained until the close of the play, and at the end of the third act they summoned Mrs. Langtry to their box to give her their hearty good wishes upon her forthcoming American tour. Both Mrs. Langtry and Mr. Hartley Manners sustained the leading parts in their own play.

THE VENEZUELAN INCIDENT.

The political trouble in Venezuela has now become of serious importance to his Majesty's Government, and on the night of Dec. 8 Mr. Balfour announced to the House of Commons that the Government had grave causes of complaint at the most unjustifiable interference by the Venezuelan Government with the liberty and property of British subjects. Although every effort had been made to procure an amicable settlement, satisfactory explanations had in no case been forthcoming, and latterly the representations of his Majesty's Ministers had passed practically unnoticed. The Government, therefore, in conjunction with the German Government, who have also large claims against Venezuela, made a final communication to the Government of that Republic, and if no satisfactory reply were obtained, the two Governments would take joint military action. The German claims relate to demands made by German residents in Venezuela for loss incurred during the last civil war through forced loans, seizure of cattle, and pillage of estates. There are also claims from German contractors on account of the



A NEW YORK RIVAL TO THE GREAT CHURCHES OF CHRISTENDOM: THE PROPOSED CATHEDRAL OF SAINT SOPHIA.

non-fulfilment of obligations by the Venezuelan Government. Both Germany and England have despatched squadrons to Venezuelan waters. The Germans are employing the *Niobe*, the *Amazone*, the *Ariadne*, the *Vineta*, and the *Gazelle*. The *Vineta* alone is a large craft; the others have only 2650 tons displacement, but they are well armed, and are, of course, more than a match for the two or three vessels which constitute the Venezuelan Navy. The point of concentration for the fleets is La Guayra, the port of Caracas, ten miles distant from the capital. The British squadron consists of the *Ariadne* (flag-ship), the *Indefatigable*, the *Alert*, the *Fantôme*, the *Tribune*, the *Charybdis*, the *Pallas*, the *Retribution*, and the torpedo-destroyer *Quail*.

THE REV. C. E. WALTERS.

The Rev. Charles Ensor Walters has been chosen to succeed the late Rev. Hugh Price Hughes as chief of the West

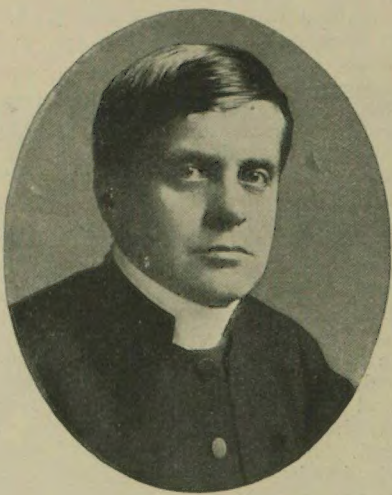


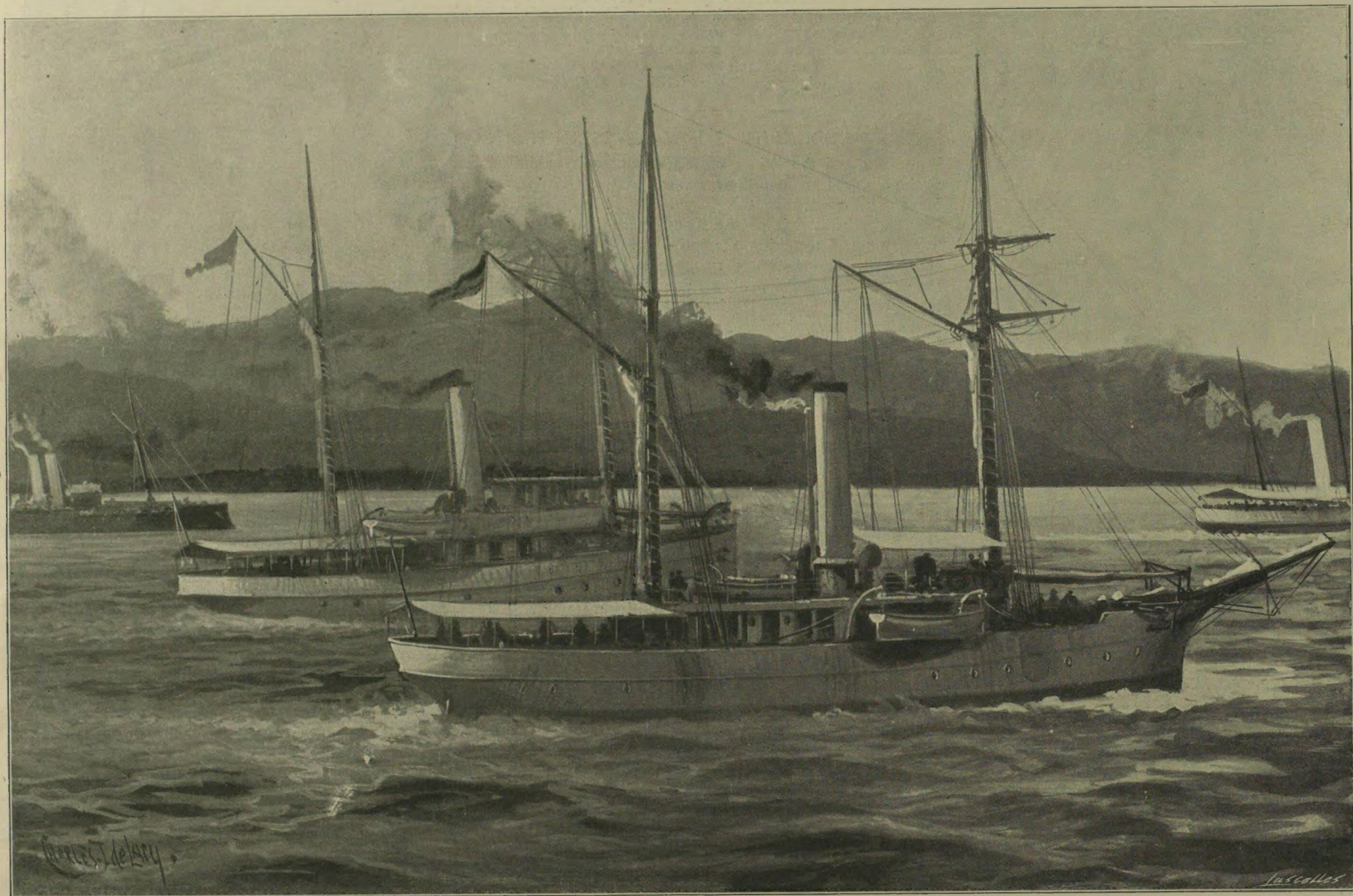
Photo. E. H. Mills.
THE REV. C. E. WALTERS,
New Chief of the West London Mission.



Photo. Elliott and Fry.
THE LATE COLONEL H. MCCALMONT,
Sportsman and M.P.

THE LATE COLONEL MCCALMONT.

Colonel Harry Leslie Blundell McCalmont, C.B., who died suddenly on Dec. 8, had for seven years been member of Parliament for the Newmarket Division of Cambridge, and at the beginning of the present Session moved the Address in answer to the King's Speech; but it was as sportsman that he was best known. For the last fifteen years he had been a prominent figure on the Turf and among yachtsmen. Colonel McCalmont became an owner of race-horses shortly after inheriting a fortune of some four millions from his great-uncle, Mr. Hugh McCalmont. His most successful horse was Isinglass, which as a two-year-old won three races worth nearly £5000; in 1893 won the Two Thousand Guineas, the Newmarket Stakes, the Derby, and the St. Leger; in 1894 the three £10,000 races; and in 1895 the Ascot Cup. Altogether he won



THE ANGLO-GERMAN ULTIMATUM TO VENEZUELA: THE VENEZUELAN FLEET, SEIZED BY THE COMBINED EUROPEAN SQUADRONS, DECEMBER 9.

DRAWN BY CHARLES DE LACY.

The fleet of the Republic consists merely of four insignificant and obsolete vessels.

London Mission, under the "Methodist Law," which provides that, in the event of the death of the minister first named in each circuit, the minister next named shall take his place as Superintendent. Mr. Ensor Walters has already given several years' strenuous work to the mission founded by the late Mr. Hughes, and during the last two or three years relieved him of much of the less important detail-work. He is to take a number of the evening services at St. James's Hall.

A GREAT CATHEDRAL FOR NEW YORK.

New York, the city of tremendous buildings, devoted for the most part to purposes of business, is now to create a record in ecclesiastical edifices. The new Cathedral of Saint Sophia will be a remarkable example of Byzantine architecture, and will rival its great namesake at Constantinople. The dome will rise to a height of 540 ft. above the pavement, and there will be accommodation for 70,000 people, or 20,000 more than the capacity of St. Peter's at Rome. The designs are by Father Bouillon, Canon of the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Ottawa. The purpose of the architect is to reveal the splendour of the dome as soon as the worshipper sets foot within the building.

In St. Peter's and St. Paul's the dome is concealed until the spectator stands almost beneath it. The interior will be decorated with rare marbles and mosaics.

eleven races out of twelve, bringing his owner stakes worth nearly £55,000. Colonel McCalmont was born in 1861, and was educated at Eton, entered the 6th Foot in 1881, and four years later was gazetted to the Scots Guards, from which he retired in 1889. As Colonel of the 6th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, he served during 1901 in Cape Colony and the Orange River Colony, receiving the C.B. for his services. He married in 1885 a daughter of Major-General John Miller, late of the 13th Hussars; and, after her death in 1889, a daughter of Sir Henry de Bathe. The Colonel had been under medical attendance for some time, but his death, which was due to heart-failure, was quite unexpected. He was leaving his residence in St. James's Square, and was descending the steps in order to enter his private cab, when he returned to the house, and, falling back into a chair, died almost immediately without regaining consciousness. The King was among the first to convey his sympathy to Mrs. McCalmont, and supplemented his verbal message with a letter. The executive committee of the East Cambridgeshire Conservative Association telegraphed their condolences. The funeral was fixed to take place at Cheveley, on Dec. 12, and it was arranged that a special train should convey the relatives and friends who wished to be present at the funeral service in All Saints' Church, Newmarket.

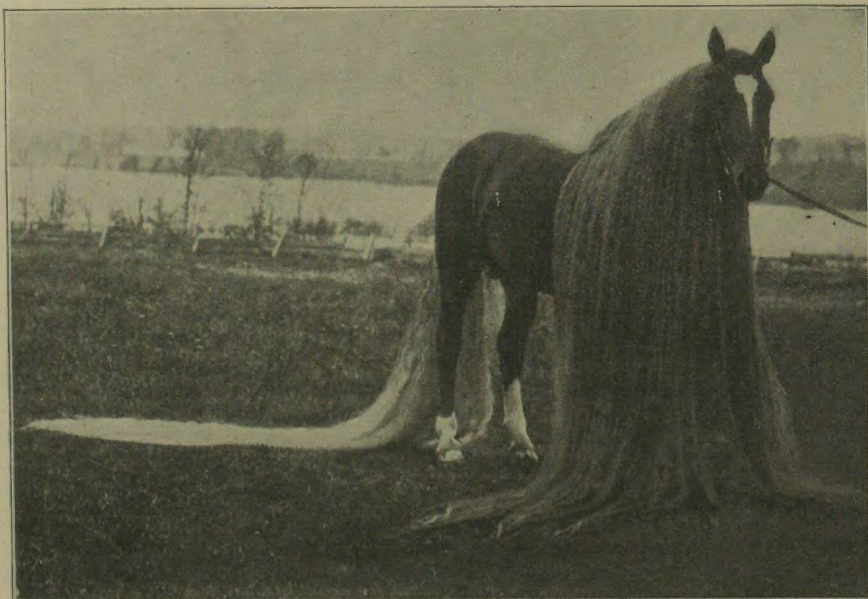


Photo. Wendt, Boonton, N.Y.

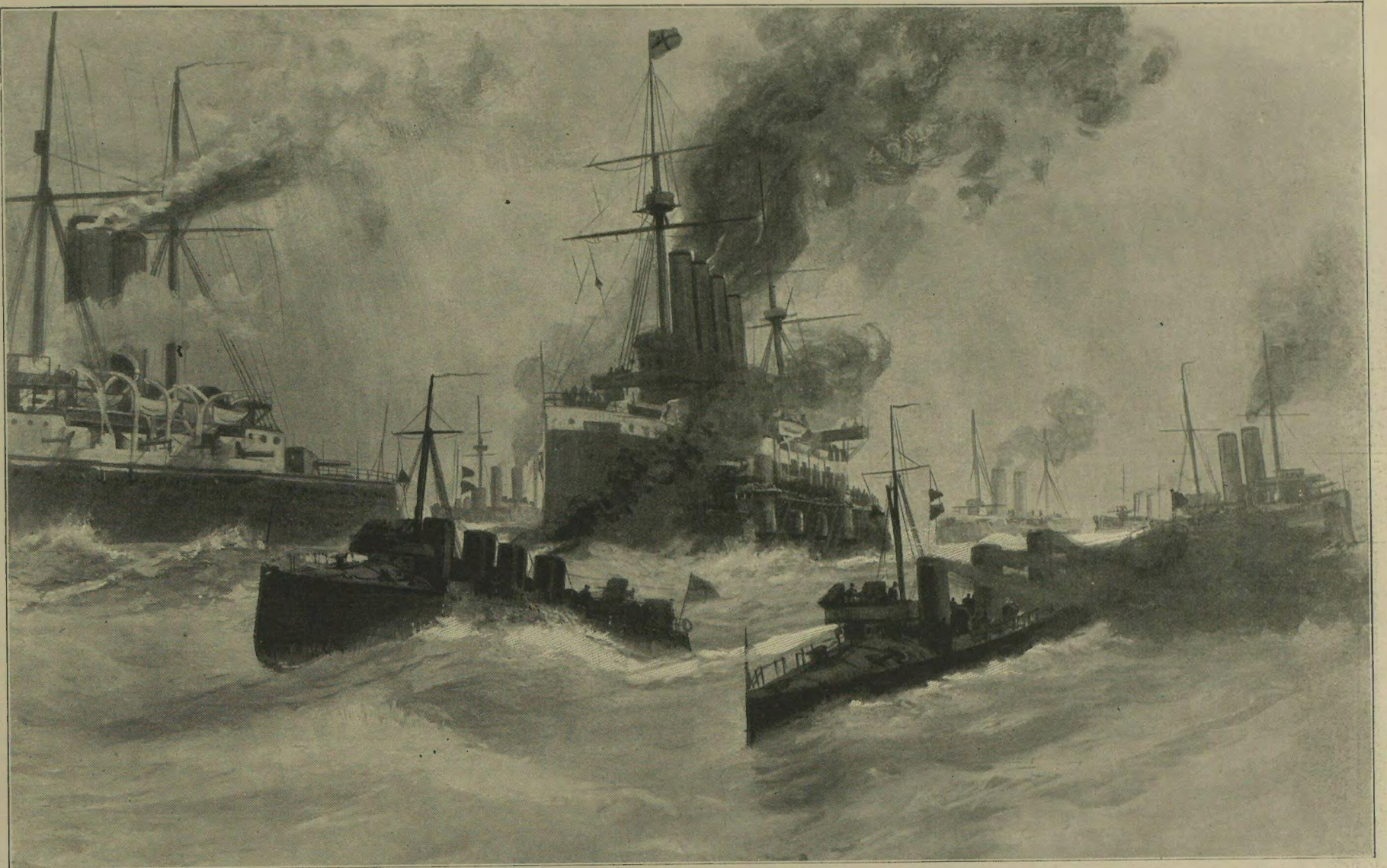
THE LONGEST-TAILED HORSE IN THE WORLD.

This remarkable horse was bred in America, was bought for show purposes, and arrived at Tilbury Docks a few days ago. His tail is 19 ft. long; his mane 12 ft. long; and his fore-top 8 ft. long. The price paid for him was 20,000 dollars. He is a chestnut, and stands 15½ hands.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN ULTIMATUM TO VENEZUELA: THE BLOCKADING FLEETS.

DRAWN BY F. T. JANE AND H. C. SEPPINGS WRIGHT.
Psyche.

Pallas. Tribune.



Charybdis.

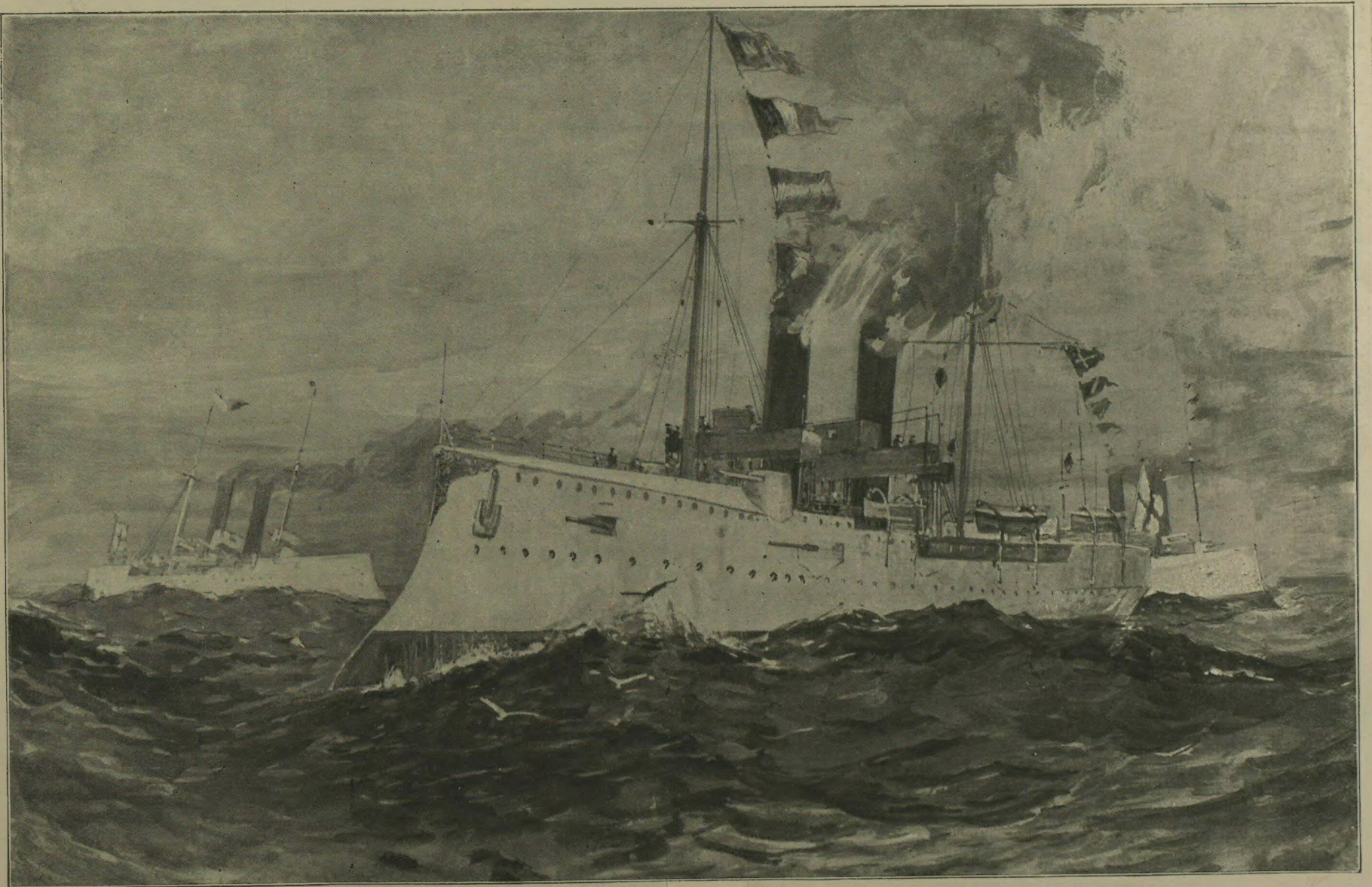
Quail (Destroyer).

Ariadne (Flag ship).

Rocket (Destroyer).

Indefatigable.

VESSELS OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN SQUADRON DETAILED TO ENFORCE OUR DEMANDS ON VENEZUELA.



Amazone.

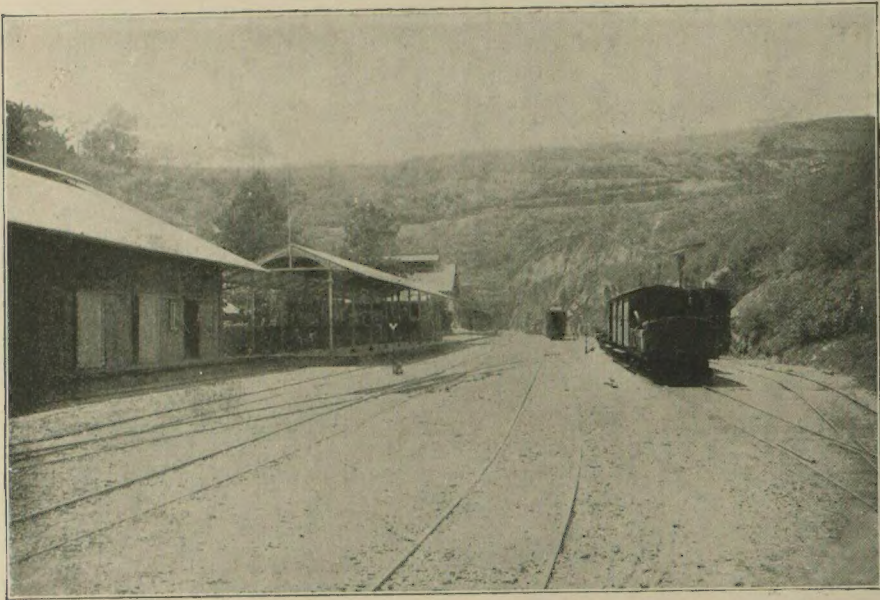
Niobe.

Aradne.

ADDITIONAL GERMAN VESSELS ORDERED FROM KIEL TO VENEZUELA.

These small but effective vessels of 2650 tons each will supplement the German vessels already at La Guayra.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN ULTIMATUM TO VENEZUELA: THE SCENE OF THE COMBINED NAVAL DEMONSTRATION.



THE GERMAN RAILWAY STATION AT CARACAS: THE GOODS SHED.



THE SCENE OF THE NAVAL DEMONSTRATION: LA GUAYRA—THE SEA-WALL.

Castro's House.



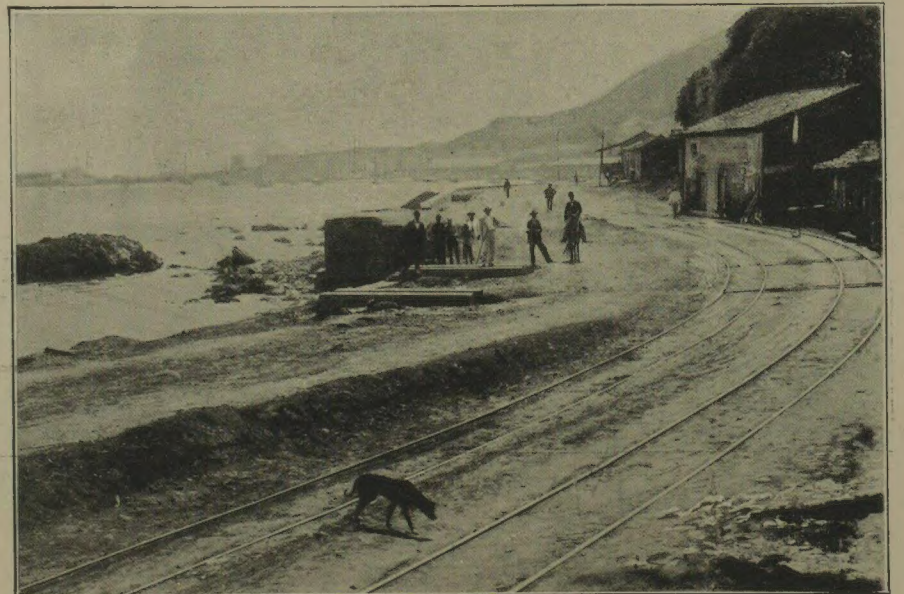
Avenue de Castro.

Crespo's House.

THE CAPITAL OF VENEZUELA: A GENERAL VIEW OF CARACAS, WITH PRESIDENT CASTRO'S HOUSE, THE HOUSE OF THE MURDERED PRESIDENT CRESPO, AND THE AVENUE DE CASTRO.



THE SCENE OF THE NAVAL DEMONSTRATION: LA GUAYRA, WITH WAR-VESSELS AT ANCHOR.



THE PORT OF CARACAS: LA GUAYRA, WITH THE OLD SPANISH FORT EL CASTILLITO.

THE DUKE AND THE DIPLOMAT.

By HORACE ANNESLEY VACHELL.



Illustrated by F. H. Townsend.

I.

"DIFFICULTIES are meat and drink to a diplomat," said Lord Colin Strathnaver to Miss Maisie Flack as they sat together in the Grosse Garten of Dresden.

"They are poison to me," replied the young lady.

"Let us confront them boldly, my dearest. If the Chief"—he alluded to his father, the present Duke of Helmsdale—"knew you, he would love you. He is susceptible, the Chief. My poor mother was a beauty, and the late Duchess an amazin' fine woman, although a Tartar; and even now, old as he is, he—well, we needn't go into that. But I mean to say this: If I could bring you two together without his suspecting that we are engaged, I'd lay odds that we should be married within the year."

"If Uncle George had any idea—"

"Your Uncle George is not plagued with ideas. We must be careful not to put any into his head."

"If only papa had not been a wholesale grocer—"

"Honour your father," said the Diplomat. "Let us always speak of him as a—merchant."

"He was a Dissenter, too."

"Ahem!—a Nonconformist, my dear love."

The lovers laughed lightly; but their faces soon clouded. The Diplomat, a younger son and an attaché at Dresden, was entirely dependent upon his father; Maisie, an orphan and a ward in Chancery, was equally at the mercy of her uncle, Colonel Pundle, of the ancient family of the Pundles of Pundle Green. The Colonel was devoted to his niece, but she fully understood that her mother had made a *mésalliance*, and that the bend between two bendlets, gules, on a field, argent, of the Pundles had been dragged in the dust of a grocer's shop! After a pause, Maisie spoke—

"I suppose you know, Colin, that Uncle George is a sort of kinsman of yours? He would tear his tongue out rather than brag about it, but his mother, my grandmother, was a third cousin, once removed, of your father's great-uncle, so we—"

"Are very near cousins indeed," said the Diplomat, kissing her. "And now, my precious, you must help me. I am maturing a—plan. Your uncle's sense of duty would certainly constrain him to write to my father in the event of anything serious impending, let us say, above me."

"Good gracious, Colin! Is anything serious impending above you?"

The Diplomat winked.

"Matrimony impends," he continued glibly. "And if the Chief knew that, he would be here in a jiffy. Why at Vienna, I—" he paused, overcome by a sudden attack of coughing.

"What happened at Vienna, Colin? You needn't answer. I see by your face you fell in love. It seems to me that the men of your family fall in love very easily."

"A case of calf-love," the Diplomat hastened to say. "Good Lord! when I compare that bread-and-butter Miss with the best and prettiest and cleverest girl in the world!—well, the Chief had a hint from the First Secretary, and I was transferred here. He told me, later, that next time I should go to Timbuctoo. So we must be very careful; for I don't want to go to Timbuctoo unless you go with me. In short, the Chief, who is nothing if not masterful, wants me to marry a wife of his choosing. Now, why shouldn't he choose—you? Eh?"

"Go on," said Maisie.

"The Chief is now at Homburg, and his cure is nearly complete, which means that he is in a mood to be approached."

"I'm certainly not going to Homburg to approach your father," said Maisie quickly.

"We must lure him here," said the Diplomat. "Listen!"

He whispered a few words. Maisie shook her head.

"I couldn't do it, Colin. I really couldn't."

The young gentleman insisted. Presently the nymph's protestations became less emphatic.

"Remember this," said the Diplomat, "it is absolutely necessary that I should leave Dresden. I shall ask for three days' leave, and spend them at Schandau. When the Colonel mentions my absence to you, account for it. Tell him the truth, but not the whole truth. His Excellency himself could give you no sounder advice."

II.

During the next two days the Diplomat was not to be seen in the Club; and his absence excited a mild curiosity, Colonel

Pundle, in particular, missed an agreeable opponent at cribbage and billiards: who kept his temper when he lost and was not unduly elated when he won. Finally, as the Diplomat had foreseen, he spoke to his niece.

"Young Strathnaver has mysteriously disappeared," he growled, as Maisie held a light to his cigar. "'Pon my soul, the club seems empty without him. The lad is a cheery lad, a cheery lad. None of his father's brains, of course, but a good, kind fellow."

"Do you know, Uncle George, to whom he is being kind at this moment?"

The Colonel stared at his niece.

"What d'ye mean, my dear?"

"Nothing, uncle. You have always told me to mind my own business. You are so wise."

"A—hem! My dear, this young man is of kin to—us, God forbid that I should proclaim this kinship, which the Duke of Helmsdale has hitherto ignored. Still, it is a tie—a bond. If you know anything about Lord Colin which concerns his welfare, it is your duty to impart that knowledge to—me."

"I can't believe it is true," faltered Maisie.

"My child, you must allow me to judge of that. Is this young man in trouble?"

"He is in love, uncle?"

"Same thing, egad! In love, is he? With whom? The right sort of young woman, I hope."

"The Duke and you might call her the wrong sort," said Maisie, after a moment's hesitation. "She is young and nice-looking, but—"

"Go on," groaned the Colonel; "you are preparing me for the worst, I know."

"Her father was a tradesman," said Maisie.

"Merciful Heaven!" spluttered the Colonel. "And the best blood in the kingdom flows in his veins! A tradesman's daughter. Horrible!"

"I am a tradesman's daughter," said Maisie.

The Colonel, who was pacing the small salon, stopped suddenly.

"I beg your pardon," he said, surveying her charming face and figure. "When I look at you, child, when I see reproduced in you the grace, the breeding, the distinction of—er—the Pundles, I may well be excused for forgetting that you were born a—Flack. You are, as you say, the daughter of a tradesman, and I should be false to every tradition of my family if that fact was not a grievous burden to me. Much as I love you," he took her hand tenderly, "much as I esteem you, worthy as I know you to be of any man's regard, still you are a—Flack. Do you know this—this adventuress? Of course, she will jump at him. Her name, Maisie?"

"I cannot tell you that," said Maisie firmly; "but I b-b-believe she cares for him."

"Confound it! I must write to the Duke to-night."

"You will interfere in other people's business?"

"The man," Colonel Pundle retorted fiercely, "who does not interfere sometimes in other folks' affairs is a coward—a coward! I shall suggest to the Duke the propriety of coming to Dresden at once. That, and no more; but it will be enough."

"Somebody was saying only the day before yesterday that the Duke was at Homburg," murmured Maisie. Then she slipped from the room and out into the pleasant garden, where a stone bench hard by a fountain invited her with mute eloquence to rest and refresh herself. Above the babble of the fountain, piercing the thick shade of a lime-tree, came a discordant sound of wood clashing against wood. The Colonel had flung back the lid of his desk and was even now dipping his quill into the ink.

"The Duke will be here soon," the girl whispered to the fountain; "but will he like me? Oh, I'm so afraid that he will not like me!"

In the deepening shadows of the evening, a Cupid, perched upon the back of a dolphin, seemed to smile.

III.

The Duke, in reply to Colonel Pundle's letter, wired that he would wait upon his correspondent at the villa upon the following Wednesday morning. You may be sure that one person dressed herself in much trepidation; and even the Colonel, a hardened veteran of a dozen engagements, admitted (to himself) that he was not entirely free from flutterings. He, too, dressed carefully,

and recalled, not without pleasure, that a personage had once seen in him a striking resemblance to the late Earl of Cardigan. The Duke, however, displayed on arrival an absurdly shabby suit of tweeds, and the shrewd, weather-beaten face of a North-country farmer. When offered a cigar, he said that he preferred a pipe, and begged permission to light a much-battered briar. Presently he drank some whisky and plain water, refusing soda and seltzer like a true Scotsman. Then he tackled the matter in hand with the directness and doggedness for which he is famous.

"My son met me at the station," he said. "I wanted to give the rogue a chance to confess. He held his tongue, the young dog; and I held mine. Do you know this young woman, Colonel?"

"I do not," said the Colonel. "This affair having been conducted on Lord Colin's part with lamentable secrecy, we may infer—"

"The worst," snapped the Duke. "I shall run the minx to earth, you may depend on that. A scheming baggage, without doubt. Bless my soul!"

He rose as Maisie entered the room. The Colonel presented his niece, who blushed delightfully. The Duke let his eyes linger upon her dimples. Then he said courteously—"We are of kin, my dear, so your uncle tells me; and if we have not met before, it shall not be my fault if we do not meet often—again." Whereupon Maisie dropped him the curtsy which foreign maidens always offer to those of high degree; and the Duke, raising her small hand, kissed it with a genial appreciation of his rank and its privileges. Maisie asked her uncle a question, listened demurely to his answer, and withdrew.

"A charming girl, upon my word," said the Duke. "One of the Flacks of Flack Hall, I suppose."

"My sister married Joseph Flack, of—er—Bristol," replied the Colonel stiffly.

"What? Joe Flack, of Bristol! A capital fellow. What a business he had! And Miss Maisie is an only child—hay? Wi' a fine tocher."

"She will have some money when she is twenty-five, or before if she marries with my consent. Can I offer you luncheon, Duke?"

The Duke, confessing to an appetite, said that the Colonel was very kind.

After luncheon Maisie held a match to the Duke's cigarette, and you may be sure he noted the fine turn of her wrist, and the delicate modelling of the hand beneath. Indeed, he begged her to sit beside him, and beamed upon her paternally beneath his bushy red eyebrows. Then she sang a couple of Border ballads. Later, when the men were alone, the Duke asked a question—

"Has Colin seen much of your niece?"

"Lord Colin," replied the Colonel formally, "used to come to this house to see—me."

"Ah," the Duke murmured. "And he might have—um! Why, when I was his age I could no more have resisted—" He rose and held out his hand. "I am wasting valuable time, Colonel, yours and mine. I am deeply in your debt, my dear Sir. Will you and your niece dine with me this evening at my hotel? You will? Capital! Colin will dine with us, but you must not let him suspect anything."

Passing through the garden, the Duke found Maisie diligently sewing under a mulberry tree. He gazed at her with real affection.

"Let me see," said he, as he took both her hands, "your uncle and I are—second cousins, I believe?"

"Are you?" said Maisie demurely.

"That makes us third cousins," said the Duke, "and in Scotland third cousins are very dear relations when"—the Duke's small eyes twinkled—"when they are as nice as you are, Maisie." He walked on, leaving Maisie smiling and blushing in the shade of the big mulberry tree.

"I really think he does like me," she told the Cupid at the fountain. "How delighted Colin will be!"

IV.

The Duke walked briskly to his hotel and ordered a *petit dîner de gala*, including some *friandises*, which, as a rule, do not tempt the appetites of men. He then asked to be directed to a florist, where he bought a large bouquet of Niphétos-roses at a price which most Scotsmen would have deemed prohibitive. Then he had his



"This capable little hand may play duets in the European Concert."

"THE DUKE AND THE DIPLOMAT."—BY HORACE ANNESLEY VACHELL.

hair cut, eyeing the while, somewhat ruefully, the red-grey locks which fell from his head on to the white sheet which encompassed his sturdy figure. It is almost certain that he had forgotten for the moment the business which had brought him from Homburg to Dresden, for when he met the Diplomat later, he stared at that young man, whistled, and ejaculated, "Bless my soul!"

"Where have you been, Chief?" said the son. "I lunched with the Pundles," said the Duke. "Most agreeable man, the Colonel. We must have him at Skelpic. And now, my dear boy, I am ready for a walk and talk with you. By the bye, our cousins are dining with us to-night."

The Diplomat received this news with a smile, and said blandly, "What brought you to Dresden, Chief?"

"I wanted to see you," the Duke replied affectionately. "His Excellency tells me that he is pleased with you. He says there is a simple directness of speech and action about you which ought to carry you far in the profession you have chosen."

The Diplomat blushed; his father continued, "I shall stay here a week or so, Colin. Gad, Sir! I have seen hardly anything of you since you left Eton. You must tell me all about yourself."

The men walked on together, but the Duke did most of the talking. In the public gardens they found an unoccupied bench, and sat down.

"I am going to be frank with you, my boy," said the Duke; and his small eyes twinkled furiously. "You and your brothers never got on quite as I wished with the late Duchess. To you I can say truthfully that I put her in your poor mother's place from a sense of duty. I thought of you when I married; and when you marry I shall expect a like consideration. If you marry to please me I shall double your income."

"And what sort of girl pleases you?" The Duke's eyes became pensive.

"You ask what sort of a girl pleases me? To a Strathnaver high health in a wife is of more importance than high breeding. Give me a daughter-in-law, my dear Colin, who is a lady, who has a reasonable amount of money, and brains not to squander it. Being my son, you will doubtless see that she is not a fright."

"If I do marry," replied the Diplomat with emphasis, "I promise you that I shall choose just such a wife as you describe. Can I say more?"

"No," said the Duke drily, "you can't."

Presently they entered the club, where the Colonel was reading his *Galignani*. The Duke led the Colonel aside.

"I am puzzled," said he. "The boy looked me square in the eye, and told me that he wished just such a wife as I would choose for him. There has been a blunder somewhere—a blunder," his Grace courteously added, "which I for one do not regret, since it has made me acquainted with my kinsman, Colonel Pundle, and his charming niece."

The gallant warrior bowed. "I have not sought your acquaintance, Duke," he said solemnly, "but it has been bestowed upon one who can appreciate it."

V.

Next day and the day after was spent by the Duke in the company of Colonel Pundle and his niece. The Diplomat had his work, and was not invited to join the trio, but he was happy and content because his Maisie had made such a remarkable impression upon one not easy to please.

"It's the most natural thing in the world," he said to her; "but so many unnatural things do happen in this queer old curiosity shop."

That evening the Duke dined alone with his son. During dinner the father was silent, but while they were sipping their coffee he said abruptly—

"I may marry again, Colin."

"Not Mrs. —?"

"Certainly not," the Duke replied hastily. "The lady, whose name need not be mentioned, is very charming, greatly gifted, and—"

"A wonderful performer at ping-pong," murmured the Diplomat.

"And—sympathetic, but not quite—quite—"

"Mature enough," suggested the son.

"Youth," said the Duke thoughtfully, "is not a disability with me. Guess again, Colin!"

"Please don't tell me it's Lady Angela."

"It is not," said the Duke. It may have been the effect of the rose-coloured shades on the candles, but the Duke's face seemed redder than usual. "I was kind to that young lady—too kind, indeed, but only in—er—a godfatherly sort of way."

"I beg your pardon," said the young man humbly. "I ought to have known, Chief, that you would not marry a mere complexion."

The Duke sighed.

"The fairest skin in the kingdom," he murmured. "Well, my boy, I shall say no more now, for nothing is settled yet. But within a few days I may have something to tell you."

"I may have something to tell you," said the Diplomat, grinning.

"Eh—what?"

"Nothing is settled yet," said the Diplomat, with something of his illustrious sire's manner; "but I give you my word that I know what I'm at. And I feel that I am justified in adding, Chief, that so far as the sex is concerned I have inherited from you a certain—*flair*."

The Duke smiled.

"My dear Colin, that is most necessary—*flair*. I'm obliged to you for the word."

VI.

Maisie, meanwhile, was slightly perplexed, and, if the truth be told, not quite easy in her mind. Being a girl of sense as well as sensibility, she determined to bring matters to a point when opportunity served. Accordingly, on the following afternoon, when his Grace led her, for the eleventh time, to that quaint stone bench beneath the ancient linden, she said timidly, "Duke—why did you come to Dresden?"

"Do you think," he replied quickly, "that it would have been wiser for me *not* to have come?"

Maisie blushed. The Duke took her hand, and pressed it.

"Are you sorry that I did come?"

"N-n-no."

"You are very young."

"Nineteen last April."

"I," said the Duke regretfully, "am sixty-three; but do I look it, my dear child?"

Certainly the shrewd face, the sturdy, well-knit figure, the keen grey eyes justified Maisie's "No." The Duke continued—

"You have thought, of course—what girl has not?—of marriage?" Maisie sighed. "With your advantages, Maisie, you might marry anybody."

"I have thought of marrying—somebody," she whispered.

"As if one could picture you the wife of a nobody," said the Duke in a firmer tone. "You have the tact, the sympathy, the grace, the *brains*, which qualify you for any position—"

"Oh, oh!" exclaimed Maisie. "And I can hardly call myself 'out' yet."

"Thank Heaven for that," said the Duke piously. "You have spent, I understand, the last five years in acquiring, besides other accomplishments, a thorough knowledge of French and Italian and German; you are familiar with the history and literature of the foreign countries in which you have lived; you understand the fundamental differences between the great nations. Only last night his Excellency observed to me that you were fit to be the wife of an ambassador. I agreed with him."

He patted her hand.

"This capable little hand," he whispered, "may play duets in the European Concert. Why not?"

From Maisie's knowledge of the Diplomat there sprouted so many reasons "why not" that she hesitated which to pluck first. The Duke misunderstood her silence.

"And if you were asked to share the triumphs and be spared, as much as may be possible, the disappointments which wait on, let us say, the Minister of Foreign Affairs" (the Duke smiled, for this exalted position in the Cabinet was said to be within his grasp) "what would you say?"

"I should say," replied Maisie with feeling, "that the pains and disappointments must be shared by me too."

"My dearest child, I should have known that you would make such an answer. I see you do not misunderstand me."

"I do not," said Maisie; "but, Duke, are you not mistaken in regard to the prospects of—of—you know?"

"Eh?"

"I have not that firm faith in his powers which you seem to have."

"You think they are *failing*—those powers?"

"Not failing—oh, dear no! Such as they are." She paused, and the Duke repeated her words with evident amazement.

"Such as they are, my dear young lady, they command a certain value, even in Dresden."

"I ought not to expect you to underrate them," said Maisie, secretly pleased that the Diplomat was held in such high esteem; "still, others, you know—"

"And what do the others say?" demanded the Duke.

"I am not thin-skinned, and it would interest me deeply to hear from you what the others do say. Apropos—whom do you mean by the—others?"

"Oh—there's uncle, you know, and—er—the Corps Diplomatique here, and his Excellency himself. It may have been mean, but I—I did pump them a little."

"You did—pump—them—a little. 'Pon my word—I—"

"Was it wrong?" said Maisie piteously. "I was so vitally interested; I—I cared so much. And I knew that my own opinion was worthless. I see you despise me."

"Not at all," the Duke hastened to reassure her.

"If interest in *him* inspired your questions, he, at least, should be the last person in the world to resent it. Well—what was said?"

"You are sure you won't mind?"

"I have never minded," said his Grace loftily.

"Pray go on!"

"They all like him," began Maisie, "because, first and last, he's a gentleman worthy of the great name he bears. But, all the same, they think that—how shall I put it?—so far as the European Concert is concerned, the orchestra could worry along without him. I hope," she added anxiously, "that I have not hurt your feelings."

"Um!" said the Duke, regarding her closely, and reflecting that he had never seen her look so charming. Maisie sighed, and continued quickly—

"Perhaps I—they—are mistaken. He may succeed. He believes," she smiled tenderly, "that he will succeed, but if he fails utterly, I, you understand, would not care, except on his account. His rank, his position in the world, the career he has chosen, are nothing to me."

"You care for the man himself," the Duke murmured.

"Yes," she replied, letting her eyes fall.

The Duke took both her hands in his and kissed her gently on the forehead.

"The man you care for," he said unsteadily, "is the luckiest man in Europe. Ah, here comes your good uncle! Tell him, when you receive a certain package from me."

VII.

The Duke had seen that morning a necklace, a single row of pearls of singularly pure quality. After leaving the villa he bought the necklace and sent it by special messenger to Maisie, who thereupon summoned the Diplomat, and showed it to him triumphantly.

"He is delightful; and, oh! Colin! he believes in your future. He spoke of the Cabinet, of the European Concert."

"And he knows," the Diplomat asserted. "If he said that I was going to be an Ambassador, I shall be one. Depend upon it, he appreciates the way I've handled our affair. I say: these pearls are all right. And he doesn't—between ourselves—like parting. And

yesterday he spoke of doubling my allowance. The truth is, Maisie, you've bewitched him—as—as I knew you would. And now, my darling, I shall go to thank him."

"Certainly. And I will tell Uncle George. You can say to the Duke that the pearls are round my neck already, and that a big kiss is growing for him. Dear old man!"

The Diplomat found his sire in the apartments reserved for his use at the Hotel Victoria.

"I've just seen a certain pearl necklace," said the son. The Duke smiled.

"You approve my—er—taste?"

"Perfect," said the Diplomat enthusiastically. The Duke rubbed his hands, and then, removing his glasses (which he only used for reading and writing), rubbed them also, while his son continued: "She has them round her lovely neck this very minute, and she bade me tell you that a big kiss was growing—for you. The pearls are real good 'uns, but I say they're cheap at that price—ch?"

The Duke blushed, reflecting that the young ladies of the twentieth century, with all their charm, were lacking somewhat in maidenly reserve.

"I knew you couldn't help loving her," pursued the Diplomat; "so, to make a clean breast of it, I planned—"

"You planned?" The Duke rose up, staring hard at the Diplomat, who nodded genially. "You planned—this? You foresaw? You—"

"*Flair!*" murmured the Diplomat. "I am glad, Chief, to learn that you do not—er—underrate my abilities. I said to myself, 'If I can bring 'em together, the thing's done.' I suppose there is no reason why the marriage should not take place at once—is there?"

The Duke murmured hastily: "None that I know of, Colin. It may, indeed, be expedient to have the ceremony performed here."

"That would be my wish," said the Diplomat.

The Duke frowned.

"We can discuss these matters later," he said coldly.

"I have not yet spoken to Colonel Pundle."

"When you do speak," said the Diplomat, "it would be kind of you to mention that my allowance is doubled."

The Duke stared harder than ever. Was it possible that his son was setting a price upon the amazing part he seemed to have played?

"It *is* doubled now—isn't it?" asked the Diplomat pointedly.

"Not yet," the Duke replied grimly. "I am surprised and, I may add, pained, that you should have mentioned the doubling of your allowance. What the doose, Sir, has that to do with any conversation I may hold with Colonel Pundle?"

But at that moment the Duke's man flung open the doors of the sitting-room and announced: "Miss Flack and Colonel Pundle." Maisie ran lightly up to the Duke and kissed him.

"I couldn't wait," she said breathlessly. "I had to come with Uncle George. He insisted on seeing you at once. He was so surprised when I told him, and," she laughed gaily, "he isn't pleased—yet. Are you, Uncle George?"

"No man likes to be bamboozled," said the Colonel stiffly.

"Bamboozled!" echoed the Duke, in a voice colder than liquid air.

"*Bamboozled!*" repeated the Colonel.

He turned helplessly to his illustrious kinsman, and shrugged his shoulders. Maisie, meanwhile, had crossed to the Diplomat, and was standing by his side—beaming. A subtle exhalation of youth and beauty and happiness informed her—and also the Duke, who addressed the Colonel.

"Pray explain, Colonel, what you mean?"

"I mean," said the Colonel, "that a Pundle of Pundle Green has been made gooseberry fool of. This young gentleman, it seems, fell in love with, proposed to, and was duly accepted by my niece *more than ten days ago!*"

"Ah!" said the Duke quietly.

"I was bamboozled by both of 'em," the Colonel continued warmly; "but you, Duke, will do me the justice to believe that, had I suspected the truth, I should have taken my niece from Dresden at once!"

"We knew that," the Diplomat added. "We had to use—*flair*."

"My niece tells me that she has won your heart. I repeat her words—that you are prepared to welcome her as a member of your family? Is this true?"

A pause followed. The Diplomat, eyeing the Duke, became vaguely sensible that his father's face wore an inscrutable expression. Maisie stared out of the window, for she *knew* at last what fruit her diplomacy had borne.

"Come here, my dear," said the Duke to Maisie.

The girl obeyed. A close observer might have noticed that her fingers and lips quivered, but her eyes met those of the Duke with a certain dignity and steadfastness.

"Your niece, Colonel," said the Duke slowly, "knows now that she has entirely won my heart, as well as my son's; and the sooner she enters my family the better I shall be pleased. None the less, the fact remains that both you and I have been, as you put it, *bamboozled*. Well, for my part, I am willing to admit that the end has justified the means; still, we have our pride—eh?—and we are justified, I think, in demanding from these successful diplomatists—silence."

The Diplomat wondered why Maisie blushed so deeply when she held up her face to be kissed by the Duke; and, later, he asked for an explanation, which a woman's wit readily supplied, albeit not the true one. He wondered, also, why no mention was made of his father's marriage.

"The Chief, you know," he said to Lady Colin, some six months afterwards, "met a charmer about the time we were engaged. He certainly gave me to understand that he was about to marry her."

"You have no idea, I suppose, who she was?" said Lady Colin.

"Not the smallest. Only I'll bet you she was young, and pretty, and no fool. We Strathnavers may be susceptible, but we are particular."

"Thank you," said Lady Colin demurely.

THE END

OYSTER-CULTURE: THE FAMOUS BEDS AT CANCALE, BRITTANY.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY A. PITCAIRN KNOWLES.



A PORTION OF THE CANCALE NURSERY: OYSTER-BEDS AT LOW TIDE.



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THE BRITISH DOMINIONS BEYOND THE SEAS.—No. II.: THE BIRTH OF CAPE COLONY.

DRAWN BY R. CATON WOODVILLE.



THE FIRST ANNEXATION: HOISTING THE BRITISH FLAG AT CAPE COLONY, 1795.

The Cape of Good Hope was discovered in 1486 by Bartholomew Diaz. The Dutch first colonised it under Van Riebeeck, and for one hundred and forty years it was governed by the Dutch East India Company. In 1795 the European settlers tried to throw off the Dutch yoke, and the Prince of Orange asked the support of Britain. In consequence, a British fleet conveyed three regiments, under Sir Alured Clarke, to the Cape, and that officer took possession of the Colony. Thus ended the rule of the Dutch East India Company. The British rule continued until 1803, when the Colony was restored to Holland. The final British annexation will be illustrated in a future Number.

LADIES' PAGES.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Messrs. Elkington and Co. have prepared a new catalogue giving illustrations of their special Christmas presents, and it will be seen that this old-established firm are quite up-to-date, and have a variety of pretty and useful gifts, ranging from small and inexpensive solid silver articles, such as pepper-casters and tape-measures, up to the finest goods. The works of the firm are at Birmingham, but they have two places in London—namely, 73, Cheapside, and 22, Regent Street. They have brought out for this Christmas as a speciality a bronze statuette, which will serve as a match-holder if



LIQUEUR SET.—Messrs. Elkington.

wished; it represents Dickens's characters "Scrooge and Tiny Tim." A new liqueur-set, in a very elegant form for sending to table, is the subject of one of our illustrations: the glasses and bottles are firmly held, and there is nothing "scrubby" about the aspect of the whole piece. Bridge, which has almost ousted whist from society, is catered for in the shape of a new box containing all the requisites for the game. Messrs. Elkington make rather a speciality of glass combined with sterling silver. The "Black Forest spirit-bottle" is the

CIGAR-LIGHTER.
Messrs. Elkington.

newest one, quite unique in shape, and very pretty upon the table. Biscuit-boxes, scent-bottles, powder-puff boxes, and many other articles are included in this description. A silver chatelaine would be a pretty present for a young lady, and all the little trinkets that hang upon it can also be supplied; and a moderate-priced gift for a man would be the sterling silver cigar-lighter that we illustrate. Other presents that might be given to gentlemen are silver cigarette-cases or cigarette-boxes and spirit-flasks. Very pretty Morocco cases for the table, both blotting-books and stationery-holders, are to be seen; the silver-work upon these is extremely fine. "Elkington Plate" is guaranteed to wear for as many years as most people would care to see the same article about them. In jewellery, it may be said briefly that every possible article is manufactured by this well-known house.

The Alexander Clark Manufacturing Company, of 188, Oxford Street, and 125, Fenchurch Street, always make a point of producing at Christmas a special new

SILVER SHAVING-MUG.
Alexander Clark Co.

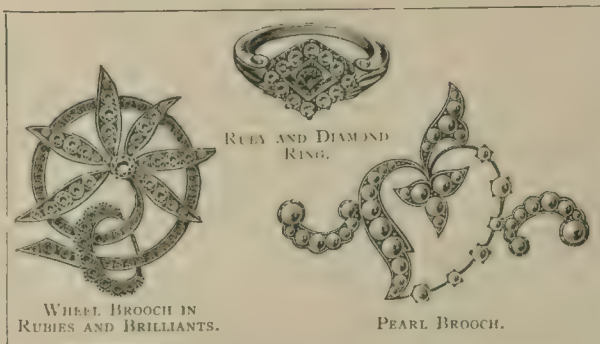
toilet-service in solid silver at a very low price for the value. Their set this year is no less charming than usual—a very handsomely chased design, of which any article can be had separately, or the entire set. We illustrate a charming solid silver jewel-casket, fitted with lock and key, that would be an ornament to any lady's dressing-table. The other illustration is a present to give a man. It is a solid silver shaving-mug for soap and hot water, fitted with a spirit-lamp. The silver receptacle for the shaving-soap is seen at the top; this can be removed while the water is being heated, and then put on until the desired degree of smooth-

ness is attained. Another great novelty is a chased solid silver-mounted boot-whisk, with a carved wood handle nearly three feet long; it is intended to hang in the hall to whisk off the dust from one's shoes before going into the rooms. Messrs. Alexander Clark illustrate a great many novelties in their Christmas catalogue, which can be had free on application.



JEWEL-CASKET.—Alexander Clark Co.

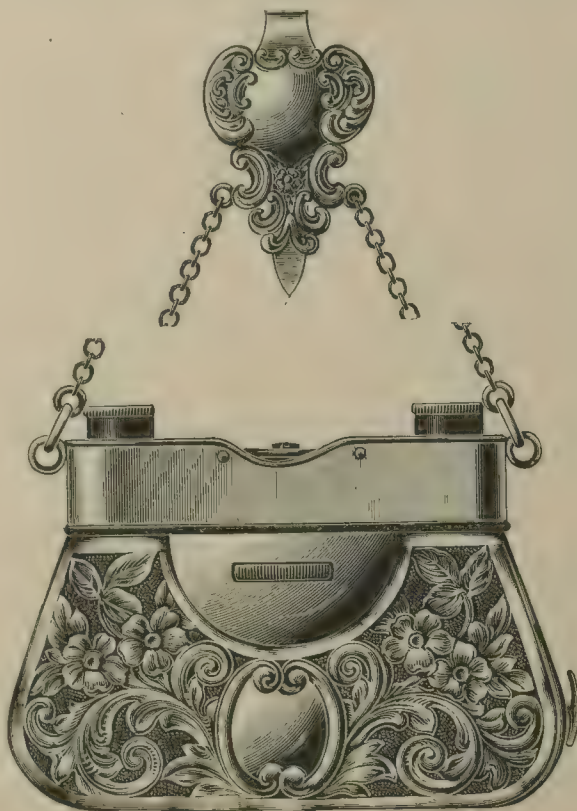
Messrs. Spiers and Pond have an advantage in being able to offer an immense variety of articles suitable for presents, ranging from a joint of good English beef up to a superb article of jewellery or an ornamental clock or other piece of furniture. Their vast establishment at Queen



Messrs. Spiers and Pond.

Victoria Street, Ludgate Hill, covers every description of article of commerce of the order for personal or domestic use. They issue a special Christmas catalogue, which will be sent on application, and will enable a choice to be easily made of some suitable article. From that catalogue we select our illustrations. That very pretty wheel-brooch is made of diamonds, olivines, and rubies; the little pearl brooch is very modest in price, and the prettily designed ring in rubies and diamonds is capital value. In the fancy department some novel presents can be found. There is, for instance, a phonograph, which both records and repeats the sweet utterances of the family, or those of singers from outside, with marvellous results. Opera-glasses, pipe-racks, waist-bags and hand-bags, shaving-tables and work-tables, sets of ping-pong and other toys, and a long list of Christmas books, may be cited rapidly as samples of the wide choice that may be had at Messrs. Spiers and Pond's "Stores."

Messrs. Fisher, 188, Strand, have an excellent stock of leather and fancy articles, among which there are



"MIGNONNE" OPERA-GLASSES.—Messrs. Fisher.

many delightful novelties. Old-fashioned and obsolete goods have short shrift at this house; and cheapness is studied, but only as far as is compatible with quality. In the Christmas catalogue, free on application, will be seen illustrations of innumerable charming things, from dressing-bags and fitted suit-cases to match-boxes and shoe-horns, ranging in price from several pounds to a few shillings. We illustrate one of the firm's special novelties in the delightful "Mignonne" opera-glass, which is so small and safe to carry that it can be worn if wished upon a hook hanging at the waistbelt. It is only the size of a card-case; nevertheless, it has all the qualities of a bulky opera-glass. Our illustration shows it in leather covered with pierced and chased silver; but it is to be had in various other forms.

The "Portable Electric Light Company," 8, Newman Street, Oxford Street, issue an interesting Christmas list of their "Ever Ready" electric-light appliances. No longer need we depend upon whether our town has arranged for the supply of electricity to the whole house, for the "dry batteries" of this company enable us to have electric lights always ready. There is a delightful reading lamp, which produces a pure bright light at a touch, and is absurdly cheap. Another capital thing is the "Ever Ready" electric torch, which on pressing a button flashes out a clear and safe light to carry about the house. The company's interesting show-rooms are always open to visitors, or a catalogue will be sent by post.

At all seasons of the year a useful and acceptable gift is a case of Scrubb's Cloudy Household Ammonia. This standard preparation is well known to be the best cleanser that is not so violent as to be injurious. A small quantity of Scrubb's Ammonia, added to the water for toilet purposes, makes it soft, and both more purifying to the skin and more refreshing. A tablespoonful or two in the bath is a delightful luxury. Ladies find innumerable uses for Scrubb's Ammonia, from washing their delicate laces at home to cleansing the silver-ware, the paint of the doors, and anything else about the house that requires refreshing and purifying. An excellent and wholesome toilet-soap is also prepared with the same name.

Messrs. Fry's chocolates have a reputation for excellence which will be found to be fully borne out by the goods put upon the market for Christmas presents. This year, many forms of dainty boxes are employed to make the delicious contents more acceptable still. These range from really fine *étuis*, at a guinea each, that would supply a most suitable gift, for example, from a young man who wished to acknowledge kindness and hospitality received from some married lady, or from a lover, with the message of "sweets to the sweet"; and thence descending in price, through pretty and permanently useful glove-boxes, caskets, and photograph-screens, to the still dainty or



BONBONNIERE WITH CHOCOLATES.—Messrs. Fry and Son.

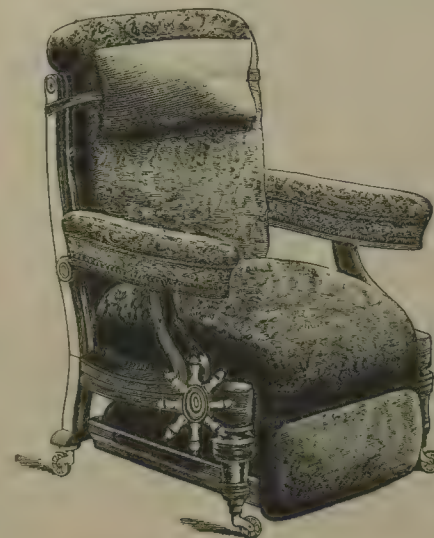
amusing boxes at sixpence to give children. The chocolates are in all pure and wholesome as well as delicious.

Most charming ornaments can be procured at very moderate prices from Messrs. Faulkner's, of 98, The Quadrant, Regent Street. Faulkner's artificial pearls have a long-standing reputation. They have been placed in South Kensington Museum side by side with real pearls to show students that they are indistinguishable; yet a handsome graduated necklet, each pearl modelled from an original of great price, can be had for three guineas, and others cheaper still. Excellent imitation pearls are to be had in various other designs; as, for example, pearl earrings, of which we give an illustration. In brooches there are innumerable charming and original designs. There is a diamond crescent with an emerald snake coiling round it, catching a pearl in its mouth; there is a pheasant in diamonds with head and neck in natural tinted enamel; the bumble-bee which we illustrate is very handsome and effective; and there are diamond owls, lizards, butterflies, swallows, and innumerable other charming brooch patterns. A flexible bracelet with diamond links on the top and gold chain underneath is pretty; and there are slides for the hair or the neckband, pearl collarettes, rings, and every sort of ornament, as may be seen in their catalogue, which is sent to inquirers post free.

PEARL EARRINGS FOR
UNPIERCED EARS.BUMBLE-BEE BROOCH.
Messrs. Faulkner.

Messrs. Hewetson, of Tottenham Court Road, are well-known manufacturers of all kinds of furnishing appliances. Room after room the visitor passes through, admiring the very latest designs in all sorts of articles that would please the "house-proud" lady. This firm also makes a speciality of genuine old black oak articles, as well as of modern reproductions in oak, and here most picturesque and pleasing gifts may be found. Tables and chairs of many quaint shapes and styles are moderate in price; while more costly articles, such as carved oak bookcases and wardrobes, are also to be seen in great variety in Messrs. Hewetson's antique rooms.

A tender thought should go out at this pleasant season to the incurable invalids with whom, alas! most people are acquainted. Those who can afford to provide assistance for any person suffering will do well to send for J. and A. Carter's list of invalid furniture and appliances from 6A, New Cavendish Street, Portland Place. This well-known firm supply not only couches and beds and



ADJUSTABLE CHAIR.—Messrs. J. and A. Carter.

other comforts for the sick, but also easy and delightful chairs which are a luxury for those in health as well as for invalids. The "Prince's" reclining-chair, which we illustrate, can be adjusted without effort to any inclination, from the upright to the horizontal position. The chair as shown might be an ordinary easy-chair; but by turning the wheel it can be made to support the figure in any desired position,

and when the adjusted leg-rest is drawn out it makes a complete couch. Then there are Carter's well-known "Literary Machines" for easy reading. Messrs. Carter's catalogue shows many other articles suitable for Christmas gifts.

An attractive show of Christmas novelties is that of Messrs. Waring and Sons, at their spacious and well-known galleries in Oxford Street. Utility is the feature upon which they appear to lay the greatest stress, although the artistic effect and the question of cost are

So far does this progressive spirit extend in some cases that one of the wealthy Princes has a star that turns round and round by clockwork set in the centre of his sword-belt; and another has a large diamond in his turban illuminated behind by a tiny electric light with a dry battery!

A census has been taken, under the auspices of the London *Daily News*, of the attendances at all the places of worship in Kensington on a particular Sunday. It was shown that the Church of England had an enormous majority of those who attended service at all. Just over twenty thousand persons went to the Anglican Church, just over eight thousand to the Roman Catholic, and seven thousand six hundred to all the other Non-conformist Churches put together. Kensington is exceptional in the excess of women among the inhabitants. The same fact would be found, however, in all the well-to-do residential localities in the kingdom. The maiden and widow ladies of private means, and able to keep two or three or more women servants, gather together in such localities. Taking the country as a whole, there are only six per cent. more females than males of all ages; but in Kensington there are sixty-nine thousand males to one hundred and seven thousand females (dropping the odd numbers in each case, of course); thus in this particularly well-to-do borough the women outnumber the men by one-third. But the returns of church-attendance show that the excess of women over men present at religious worship was well over a hundred per cent. The percentage of male attendance at all churches together in the morning was less than one in ten, and in the evening one in fifteen, out of the whole number of men residents in the borough. It is clear that there is perfect accuracy in the little bit of doggerel which comes from America—

In the Church's field of battle,
In its bivouac of life,
The average Christian soldier's
Represented by his wife!

In face of such figures, one reflects with some surprise upon the somewhat remarkable decision of the Bishops when, a few years ago, they determined to establish Councils of the laity to advise the clergy in the parishes. Their Lordships then voted also that women communicants should be excluded from those Councils because of their sex. Four thousand Churchwomen, led by several eminent ladies of the Communion, protested against this decision on the ground that they formed the most active members of the Church everywhere, as well as the more numerous portion of it; and that, therefore, the stated object of the new Councils, which was to enable the congregation to consult and advise with the parish priest, could not possibly be carried into effect if women members of the Church were not included. But this remonstrance did not succeed. The activities of women in connection with the Church remain, nevertheless, of the highest importance to it, as the figures above cited would indicate. Another proof is found in a letter sent forth by Lords Belper, Llangattock, and Duncannon, commending to Churchmen the support of the "Ladies' League for the defence and promotion of the faith of the Church." It is stated that the "Ladies' League" has organised over one hundred courses of lectures on Church history; has published books and leaflets on the history and the teaching of the Church; has established a girls' school; and has founded a home to train ladies to work among the poor, and a residential home for poor gentlewomen. This is truly a "great and varied work," as it is called by the peers who have signed the letter.

An address was presented to Miss Frances Power Cobbe on the occasion of her eightieth birthday, Dec. 4, to which a large number of distinguished men and women appended their signatures. The address congratulated the well-known author and philanthropist on reaching her venerable age, and expressed appreciation of her work in workhouse reform, in promoting higher education and greater equality of treatment for women, and in teaching broad theology and ethics, and, above all, on her having been the first person to "explore the dark continent of the sufferings of animals," and to bring clearly into relief the rights of the dumb creatures, and our duties towards them. The address was signed by three Bishops, by the Master of Balliol, by Dr. Clifford and other well-known Nonconformist ministers, peers and peeresses, poets like Sir Edwin Arnold, Sir Lewis Morris, and Mr. William Watson, and a very large number of eminent women, both titled ladies and workers in various directions.

At last the weather has set in cold with apparent seriousness, and the hearts of the furriers will rejoice. One of the novelties in fur this season is the Granny Muff, which is simply huge. Some of the most fashionable sable muffs are thirty inches round and half a yard wide. A new shape for a big muff is a copy of a melon. Others are made narrower at the ends than at the centre, producing the effect of a heart-shape; this is a sensible way of making, as it does not allow the cold air to come in round the hands as the very wide ends easily permit. Muffs of fur and velvet combined are "quite the thing" this season. They have the disadvantage of looking only really in keeping with either one particular coloured costume or a black one; but when there is a dress with which they harmonise they look extremely nice. For example, a royal blue velvet dress trimmed with sable, seen at a recent wedding, was appropriately finished by a muff of identical material and fur lined with white satin and frilled with lace. At the same wedding, a dress of grey striped panne, with a front of rich silk embroidery finished with ornaments of chinchilla with tassels from neck to hem, edging a narrow vest of lace laid over pale blue, was charmingly completed with a long

stole-ended pelerine of chinchilla, and a big muff combined of chinchilla, blue velvet, and grey panne.

It seems absurd to be-trim rich and handsome furs. Nevertheless, it is being done, especially on the grey squirrel coats, which are really in themselves not very smart; the fur is a cosy one, but more suitable for the lining for which only hitherto it has been considered desirable than parading itself before all eyes. It is therefore improved by the various decorations that are applied to it, of which perhaps the smartest are embroidered leather strappings. Pale tan leather, worked upon with silks in the multitudinous colours and wandering patterns which we are used to calling "Oriental," is distinctly an attractive addition when applied to a squirrel sac coat in the form of broad epaulettes and strappings down the front and back. Sealskin, however, I do not personally think requires what it occasionally receives—appliqués of coloured silk embroidery, or collars of white worked linon, or medallions of white lace; however, into these superfluities have sometimes developed the white lace collars and frilled throat-finishes of last year.

Nevertheless, a handsome fur looks best in beauty unadorned. A sable, or sealskin, or lynx, or martin-tail, or any other dark fur jacket or tie, is most becoming to the complexion; and will be found usually more desirable against the face than either the dead white of lace or the parti-colouring of elaborate embroidery. Moleskin is decidedly the most fashionable new fur; it usually appears as a short Russian coat, belted round the waist and pouched a little above the belt; but for motoring, a moleskin coat should reach the feet, and should be lined with flannel. "Greenland seal" is another great favourite for motoring women's wear. It is really undressed seal, and possesses a cream or grey surface mottled all over with darker spots. In this and in other furs are made motoring-caps for ladies, with a peak in front and a falling curtain behind to protect the hair, and a flat but wide crown to carry raindrops beyond the head when necessary. Such a cap should be made to order, as it is indispensable that it should fit the wearer's head quiet



A CARRIAGE-WRAP IN FUR AND VELVET.

equally considered. These are three very important factors in connection with the present season. The smaller articles of furniture and bric-à-brac which are comprised in Waring's illustrated Christmas list possess in an eminent degree the three qualities enumerated—they are useful, artistic, and inexpensive. They comprise occasional-tables, easy-chairs, card-tables, screens, revolving bookcases, metal coal-boxes and fire-screens, decorative china, writing-tables, smokers' cabinets, music-seats, perfume-cases, hammered brass dishes, telescopic tables, tea-trays, with many others too numerous to mention. A visit to these well-stocked show-rooms is both advantageous and interesting.

NOTES AND DRESS.

The secluded women of high birth in India have been specially arranged for at the coming Durbar. This is said to be due to the personal influence of Lady Curzon, who also has managed to secure that the great art gallery of Delhi shall be reserved for women alone on certain days, thus affording the only possible opportunity for the secluded ladies to visit this institution. At the Durbar there is to be a portion of the amphitheatre provided with a latticed screen, behind which the "Purdah" ladies may sit and view the proceedings, themselves invisible. Englishwomen at Delhi will be reminded thereby of the preposterous screen in the Ladies' Gallery of the House of Commons, where we ourselves are so absurdly fenced off from the men whom at all other times and in all other places we mix with freely.

There is to be a tremendous display of jewellery by the English ladies who go over to the Durbar. Upon this point there has been an unwritten agreement arrived at, for it is felt that it would not be suitable for the women of the ruling caste to compare too unfavourably in personal splendour with the native Princes. The Duchess of Connaught, the only lady member of the royal family to attend, is taking a most valuable casket of jewels for her personal use. It will not be easy to outdo the Indian Princes, however. They are great jewel-buyers; and although many of their ornaments are dull to our eyes, because they are cut in a heavy fashion, and not as brilliants like our own, still their size gives them an unquestionable splendour. Moreover, some of the Princes are awakening to modern possibilities in the art of gem-cutting, and have a certain proportion of their jewels re-set according to European methods.



AN EVENING GOWN IN BLACK AND WHITE.

closely, and at the same time the peak should not come too far down over the forehead. Similar caps are made in stout tweeds and homespun, which are practically waterproof and very comfortable in wear.

One of our Illustrations shows a very handsome carriage-wrap, in which sable, embroidered cloth, and velvet combine to produce a rich effect. The muff is one of the large "Granny" ones above described, and is furnished with a number of sable tails and a beastie's head looking perkily forth. The hat of fur above lace is trimmed with a "brush" osprey and a falling cluster of chenille grapes. The other fashion sketch is from a black and white evening frock, simple in design but effective in wear. The decorative possibilities of black and white are equally unquestionable in day and evening attire.

FILOMENA.



THE GREAT GALES AND SHIPWRECKS ON THE EAST COAST: THE LIFE-BOAT TO THE RESCUE.

DRAWN BY CHARLES DE LACY.

The gales have not been without their customary accompaniment of wrecks. On the East Coast of England, and especially of Scotland, the severity of the weather has been much felt, and has resulted in a considerable amount of work for the life-boats and their crews.



DEAD HORSES AS TARGETS: GERMAN INFANTRY TESTING THE EFFECT OF THE NEW RIFLE.

The new German infantry weapon, 98, will, as soon as the Guards have been supplied with it, be taken into use by the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Army Corps, and then will probably be adopted by the rest. To prove its working, very interesting trials have taken place with dead horses. It was especially desired to test in what time a cavalry charge on infantry could be repulsed by shooting down the horses. Some of the bodies were laid on the ground, the others were hung on a steel wire, thus giving the advantage of a moving target. Afterwards the military veterinary surgeons examined the wounds, and were able to form deductions from these of the effects of the same bullets on the human body.

A STUART PORTRAIT DISCOVERED IN A MOORISH TOWN.

AFTER THE SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY PAINTING BY FELIX SIMON BELLE.



THE OLD PRETENDER AND HIS SISTER LOUISA —BY FELIX SIMON BELLE (NOW PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME).

This remarkable picture, painted in 1699 by Belle, a well-known portrait-painter of the Louis XIV. period, was recently discovered, rolled up and neglected, in an old house in Tangier. It was rescued by an English resident, who stretched the canvas on a frame and sent it to England, where its full interest and beauty were revealed by skilful cleaners. The picture carries lightly its 200 years. The faces of the Prince and his sister bear an extraordinary likeness to one another, and portray the Stuart type in remarkable freshness. At the time when the picture was painted, Prince James, then eleven years of age, was living at St. Germain with his exiled father, James II.

THE ASSOUAN DAM: VIEWS OF PHILAE AND THE VICINITY.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MR. HERBERT INGRAM.



PHILAE: THE EAST SIDE, SHOWING A DAHABEEN IN THE FOREGROUND.

PHARAOH'S BED, WHICH HAS BEEN FORTIFIED AGAINST THE ACTION OF WATER.

A GENERAL VIEW OF THE ISLAND OF PHILAE, SHOWING THE TEMPLE OF ISIS AND PHARAOH'S BED.

PHILAE: THE COLUMNS IN THE OPEN COURT WITHIN THE MAIN TEMPLE.

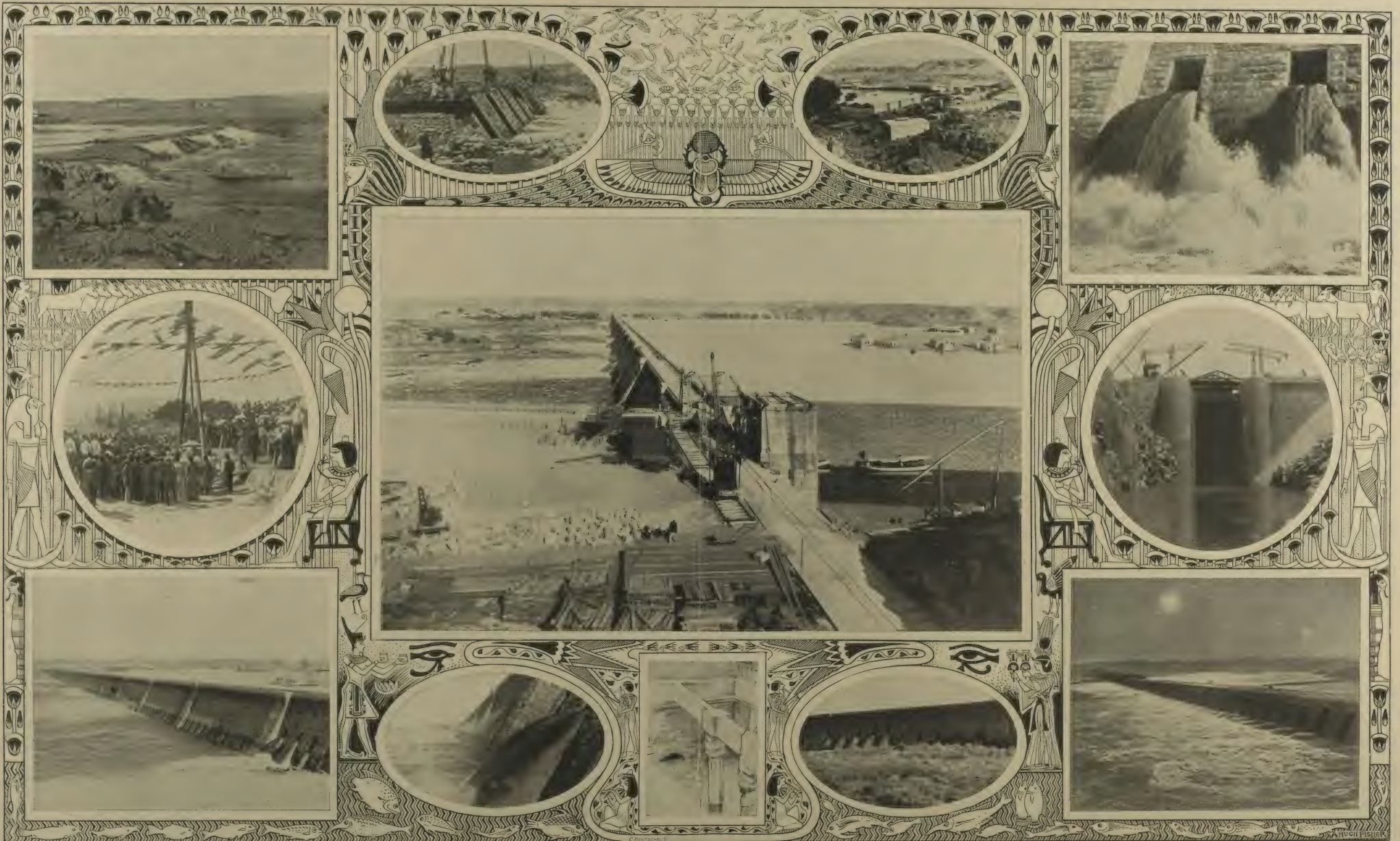
PART OF THE RUINS ON THE ISLAND OF PHILAE.

A DISTANT VIEW OF ASSOUAN FROM THE END OF THE FIRST CATARACT.

PART OF A PYLON OF THE TEMPLE OF ISIS AT PHILAE.

The wonderful ruins at Philae have not, as was reported, been sacrificed to the needs of Lower Egypt by the Assouan Dam. Between December and May the island will, it is true, be slightly flooded, but the temples and colonnades have, by the ingenuity of Mr. Talbot, been securely underpinned down to rock or carried on steel girders, so that the action of the water will not undermine them.

THE NEW EPOCH IN THE HISTORY OF THE NILE: THE ASSOUAN DAM, OPENED BY THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, DECEMBER 10.



THE STONE MUDD, OR TEMPORARY DAM, ACROSS THE BAB-EL-KEBIR AND SOGHAIH CHANNEL COMPLETED.

THE INAUGURATION OF THE WORKS: THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE, FEBRUARY 12, 1899.

A RANGE OF SLUICES: THE DOWNSTREAM SIDE OF THE DAM LOOKING EAST, 1902.

THE BAB-EL-KEBIR CHANNEL JUST AFTER THE CUTTING OF THE SUDS, 1900, SHOWING THE CAST-IRON CULVERT LININGS.

SLUICES OF THE ASSOUAN DAM AT WORK.

A GENERAL VIEW OF THE DAM AS IT APPEARED AT THE TIME OF OPENING.

THE ANCIENT PROPHECY OF FAT OR LEAN YEARS FOR EGYPT: THE NILOMETER.
Drawn by A. Hugh Fisher.

SIR JOHN AIRD'S VILLAGE: THE FITTING-SHEDS FOR LOCOMOTIVES, 1900.

SLUICES RELEASING WATER FOR IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION.

FOR THE REFRESHING OF LOWER EGYPT: SLUICES ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE DAM IN ACTION, 1902.

SOUTH ENTRANCE TO THE LOCKS IS THE NAVIGATION CHANNEL, FITTED WITH SLIDING DOORS TO RESIST THE WATER PRESSURE.

THE ASSOUAN DAM DURING THE ECLIPSE OF NOVEMBER 11, 1901.

THE NEW EPOCH IN FATHER NILE'S HISTORY: SCENES IN CAIRO.



OUTSIDE THE MOSQUE.

The traveller writes down in red letters the day on which he wakes for the first time in Cairo during the season. Should fate send him to the great Egyptian metropolis in the days when it is given over to fellahen and mosquitoes, there will be little room in his heart for praise; but from the beginning of December to the end of March he will find Cairo a city of delights. I do not refer particularly to the social gaieties, though they are universal; I refer rather to the splendid quality of the air, to the moderate temperature, and to the many and varied sights that the city affords. You can live in state in a hotel like a palace if the length of your purse permit, or you can dwell modestly in one of the houses like the Spanish *casas de huéspedes* that offer comfort and cleanliness in return for a few shillings a day.

With earliest dawn, when the mists are melting from the fields, Cairo wakes. Pious Moslems have responded to the Mueddin's call to early prayer, and are proceeding to open their shops in the Arab quarter, the least reputable corner of the city; the black men, who do most of the hard work for their Levantine proprietors, are arranging and cleaning the cafés in the mysterious interval between the departure of the latest and the arrival of the earliest visitor; the streets are fragrant with the savour of newly baked bread and freshly roasted coffee, and looking round at the crowd of people, all wearing turban or fez, it is hard to realise that Cairo is in British hands, until somewhere in unseen barracks the familiar bugle-call goes ringing through the air, and a few minutes later an orderly in uniform rides through the streets. I have always noticed in Cairo, as in other cities of Egypt—Alexandria and Port Said to wit—that evidences of British authority are only forthcoming when called for. At other times they remain in the background, where they are on this fine February morning, when Cairo seems to belong wholly to the East. There is no suggestion of the supervision that forces itself upon your attention in



FISHING-BOATS ON THE NILE.

Algeria and Tunisia. The True Believers live their own lives, and are governed by equal laws. They know that it has pleased Allah the One to give the Kaffirs temporary authority over them, but they also know that pains and penalties unspeakable await the aforesaid Kaffirs, whose elevation is the greater for the time that the fall may be more disastrous presently.

Mahdi and Khalifa have gone; it was written that they were not to free the neck of the East from the yoke of the West; but to-day there is another prophet arisen, even Muhammad es Senussi, who has agents in Cairo itself. Perhaps it is written that he shall accomplish the "Jihad," and in the meantime it suffices to obey laws, pay taxes, enjoy liberty, and pray five times a day.

The interest of native Cairo centres on the Nile, and thither we make our way to the banks where the crane and the scarlet ibis feed in perfect security, where the fellahen work in comparative comfort, while with youth on the prow and pleasure at the helm—or is it the other way about?—the beautiful dahabeahs go down the river to the Pyramids of Luxor and the First Cataract. Most of them fly the flag of Thomas Cook and Son, who practically control the tourist business of the Nile, as they control it in Naples and other places of universal interest. Their name and flag startle the man who, in a two hours' ramble through city and along river-bank, has seen nothing else that is distinctly British, the orderly aforementioned being excepted. It is a strange blending of the old and the new: Memphis and Luxor on the one hand, with all their

mysteries of a civilisation long dead, and the modern dahabeah taking its freight of ultra-modern Europeans and Americans over a river that has witnessed some of the most dramatic scenes the world has known. The latest and most significant of these is the inauguration this week of that extraordinary piece of engineering which will render Lower Egypt independent of the caprices of Father Nile.



ON THE BANKS OF NILE.



THE BREAD-SELLERS.



THE VENDOR OF SUGAR-CANE.

THE RE-ARMING OF THE PORTSMOUTH SEA-FORTS.

DRAWN BY F. T. JANE, OUR SPECIAL ARTIST AT PORTSMOUTH.



HOISTING NEW ARTILLERY INTO ONE OF THE "CHESS-BOARD" FORTS AT SPITHEAD.

These forts, though somewhat old, are of extreme importance, as they block the channels in such a way that no enemy could pass them without being subjected to a close-range fire. Till lately they have been armed with many obsolete guns, which are now giving place to the latest type of weapon. The new guns are usually taken in through the door of the fort, and one may be noted resting on the gangway. The mountings, which are more cumbersome, have to be lifted in over the top by the steam-shears—a difficult operation in the choppy seas that prevail at Spithead. The forts, which are a mile or more from the land, are armour-plated.

SCIENCE JOTTINGS.

BY DR. ANDREW WILSON.

The child, as a factor in the human estate, and as the literal "father to the man" in the truest sense of the term, is becoming year by year a more and more important object of study, not only by the sanitarian and physician, but by the mere sociologist as well. This is all very satisfactory, not only because the scientific study of childhood is an essential part of all biological inquiry, but because an immense benefit on child-life is likely to be conferred through greater attention being paid to the conditions under which alone childhood may be made to form the portal to a healthy adult existence.

We know of many ailments, for instance, which have been regarded as undoubtedly of heritable nature, and are considered as inevitably handed on from parent to child, and as working out in the child's history their dire effects. Of these diseases, however, some have been proved to miss the hereditary side of things altogether, while in the case of those ailments that are handed onwards as fell legacies from parents to children, science teaches us the cheering truth that much may be done by attention to the child's hygiene to enable it to overcome its "taints of blood," and to grow up a healthy unit. This is the hopeful side of hygienic teaching, and it is also a highly practical aspect of the subject treated from the economic standpoint. A nation must first be physically strong before it can hold its own in the struggle for existence, and it must be healthy if it is to do its appointed work in the world, and to enjoy that happiness which is the world's desire. If, therefore, the national culture of health does not begin with child-life, we can see how the whole fabric of hygienic science falls to the ground. In place of being a training school for vigorous citizens, the national life will represent a nursery for weakly babes and sucklings.

To show how encouraging is this matter of hygiene as applied to the proper development of the physique of the child, we may reflect for a moment on the case of consumption, or tuberculosis. This ailment was previously regarded as being essentially of hereditary nature. The father or mother affected was certain to transmit the disease to the child. Hence an element of hopelessness was introduced into the considerations which had for their aim the child's physical salvation from a well-defined physical curse. In the light of better knowledge of tuberculosis we see how differently hygiene to-day regards this ailment. We know it to be curable in the first place—eminently so, when it is taken in time. In the second place, we know that the child is not born with the disease already developed in his tissues. I say this much, not neglecting a few cases in which there seems to be evidence of infection from the mother.

It is here, in fact, a case of the seed and the soil. The child born of affected parents has a frame which forms a readier soil for the reception of the microbes of the ailment than is the body of the child born of healthy parents. It is so with other ailments. Between the tendency to favour a disease and the actual inheritance of the ailment there is a great gulf fixed. Now, recognising this fact, hygiene has an immense future before it. If the child of tuberculous stock is carefully tended, well fed, well clothed, not over-educated, lives in a pure atmosphere, exists in plenty of light, and is otherwise surrounded by conditions which are hygienic, he will probably grow into as healthy a man as will the offspring of an untainted ancestry. I have heard statisticians, indeed, fix the age of from twenty-seven to thirty years as that which marks the Rubicon here. That passed in safety, the expectation of life for the child of tuberculous parents would be as long as for the child of healthy parentage.

All this is cheering, and it teaches us once again that invaluable principle—invaluable because of its practical teaching—of the influence of environment on the living being. Surround the child with insanitary conditions—imperfect food in quantity and quality, bad air, a dark abode, overstrain in education, and insufficient clothing—and you will speedily find the constitution reflect the parable of the seed and the sower. Then will the seeds of disease, which fall barren and unproductive on the healthy frame, bring forth their foul fruits a hundred-fold. We should therefore bear clearly in mind what child-culture means in the light of hygienic protest. It implies the power to alter diseased tendencies and to replace them by incentives to healthy growth. It also means the adding of many effective units to the mass that is concerned with the work of the world.

There is a less-pleasing aspect of this subject, however, which deserves both mention and criticism. I allude to the wholesale neglect of child-health which is everywhere exhibited, and to the protests of School Boards and of other bodies against what we may denominate gross neglect of the units for whose existence and for whose welfare the parents are responsible. One cannot read the journals devoted to medical and educational science without seconding very warmly the strong protests made against the neglect in question. Defects in eyesight, notified by the authorities to parents and fraught with serious delay in educational advance, are left unheeded. Deficiencies in hearing are similarly neglected. Everyone knows how a deaf child is handicapped in all its efforts to acquire knowledge, while the teacher's work is rendered largely null and void. Many of these defects are perfectly curable if taken in time. Dr. Permewan, of Liverpool, lately told the Liverpool branch of the Child-Study Association of his researches into the hearing of school-children. He showed how such defects produced a waste of intelligence in the patients, and thus practically squandered the money spent on their education. We are face to face here with a grave charge. The State may stand in loco parentis to avoid or cure an evil, but there exists all the same a terrible reflection on the parents of the period.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications for this department should be addressed to Chess Editor.

A W MONGREDIEN.—We are pleased to receive your problem, but we should prefer, for safety's sake, to have the position on a diagram.

MAX FEIGL (Vienna).—Thanks for your contributions, which we receive with a great deal of pleasure. Will you please, however, send them on a diagram, as No. 1 seems to have a mate on the move?

BANARSI DAS (Moradabad).—Your problem is now correct, and appears very good.

FIDELITAS.—Your problem is accepted, and it shall appear as soon as possible.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS Nos. 3051 and 3052 received from P. N. Banerji (Indore); of No. 3051 from Gertrude M. Field (Athol, Mass.) and C. Field junior (Athol, Mass.); of No. 3052 from Joseph Cook, Rev. C. R. Sowell (St. Austell), Robert Bee (Cowpen), and G. Lill (Gringley-on-Hill); of No. 3056 from T. Roberts, Major Nangle (Rathmines), A. G. (Pancsova), C. B. (Jersey), F. B. Le Cocq (Jersey), Captain J. A. Challice (Great Yarmouth), J. F. Moon, and J. F. G. Pietersen (Kingswinford).

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 3057 received from Rev. A. Mays (Bedford), James W. North (Bideford), Thomas Henderson, G. Stillingfleet Johnson (Cobham), Joseph Cook, Martin F., J. F. G. Pietersen (Kingswinford), Shadforth, F. R. Jones (Manchester), Charles Burnett, W. A. Lillico (Edinburgh), J. Coad, Clement C. Danby, Thomas M. Eglinton (Handsworth), Reginald Gordon, Sorrento, R. Worters (Canterbury), J. D. Tucker (Ilkley), Edith Corser (Reigate), H. S. Brandroth (Biarritz), Mrs. Wilson (Plymouth), Alpha, L. Desanges, W. D. Easton (Sunderland), F. J. S. (Hampstead), T. Roberts, E. Fear Hill (Trowbridge), and L. G. Miles.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 3056.—By R. H. ANDREWS.

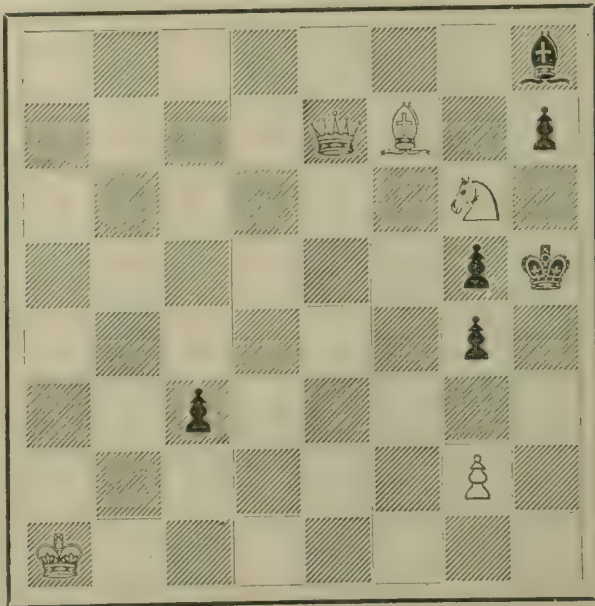
WHITE. BLACK.

1. B to B 5th K takes R at B 6th
2. Q to Kt 7th (ch) K takes Q
3. Kt to R 5th, mate.

If Black play 1. K takes R at K 4th, 2. Q takes B P (ch); and if 1. either R takes R, 2. Q to Q 7th (ch), and 3. Q mates.

PROBLEM No. 3059.—By C. W. (Sunbury).

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN PARIS.

Game played between Messrs. B. SILBERT and D. JANOWSKI.

(Two Knights Defence.)

WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. J.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. J.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	13. Kt takes B	P takes Kt
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	14. B to K 3rd	Q to K 2nd
3. B to B 4th	Kt to B 3rd	15. Q to B 2nd	P to Q B 4th
4. P to Q 3rd		16. Q R to K sq	Q to K B 2nd
The attack resulting from Kt to Kt 5th is evidently now considered of no real advantage, as it only embarrasses Black for the time. Here, however, 4. P to Q 4th leads to a much more interesting game, and to play that may give White winning chances.		17. Q to B sq	Q R to Q sq
5. Kt to B 3rd	B to B 4th	18. B to Q sq	P to Q 5th
6. P to K R 3rd	P to Q 3rd	19. P takes P	P takes P
7. Kt to K 2nd	Kt to K 2nd	20. B to Q 2nd	R to Q B sq
White should continue here with P to Q 4th, one effect of which would be to force Black's hand, and another to shut out his King's Bishop.		21. Q to Kt sq	Kt to B 5th
8. B to Kt 3rd	Kt to Kt 3rd	22. B takes Kt	P takes B
9. P to B 3rd	Castles	23. Kt to R sq	Kt to Q 2nd
10. Castles	B to Kt 3rd	24. P to K B 3rd	Kt to K 4th
11. Kt to Kt 3rd	P to Q 4th	25. Kt to B 2nd	P to K R 4th
In this and in similar positions the Q P must be captured—a good and sound rule.		26. B to Kt 3rd	Q to Kt 3rd
12. Kt to Kt 5th	B to K 3rd	27. Kt to R sq	R to B 3rd
	P to K R 3rd	28. Q to Q sq	B to R 4th
		29. R to K 2nd	Q to Kt 4th
		30. R to Q B 2nd	R takes R
		31. B takes R	R to Kt 3rd
		32. Q to K 2nd	Q to R 5th
		33. K to R 2nd	B to B 2nd
		A prelude to the finishing strokes. There are now all sorts of pretty moves possible.	
		34. Q to B 2nd	R to Kt 6th
		35. Q to K sq	R takes R P (ch)
		White resigns.	

CHESS IN RUSSIA.

Game played by correspondence between Messrs. T. BREED and P. UTKIN.

(Ruy Lopez.)

WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Mr. U.)	WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Mr. U.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	21. B to Q 3rd	K to B 2nd
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	22. Kt to K 4th	B to B sq
3. B to Kt 5th	P to Kt 3rd	The threatened P to Kt 4th must be provided for. The play from this point to the end is interesting.	
4. P to Q 4th	B to Kt 2nd	23. P to Kt 4th	Kt to Kt 2nd
5. B to Kt 5th		24. P to Kt 5th	Kt to R 4th
A line of play which is supposed to cause Black trouble. The best reply is K to K 2nd.		25. P takes P	Kt takes P
6. B to K R 4th	P to B 3rd	26. Kt takes Kt	K takes Kt
7. Castles	P takes Q P	27. B to Q 4th (ch)	K to B 2nd
8. Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt	28. P to B 3th	P to Kt 3th
9. P to Q B 3rd	Q to B 4th	29. R to Kt 3rd	P to K R 3rd
10. Q to Kt 3rd	Kt to R 3rd	30. R to K sq	R to K sq
11. Q to K 6th (ch)	Q to K 2nd	31. B to K 2nd	K to Kt sq
12. Q takes Q (ch)	K takes Q	32. P to B 6th	P to K Kt 5th
13. P takes P		33. P to B 7th (ch)	K takes P
The real play, it will be seen, comes later in the game. The exchange leaves Black with a poor position, though it is nominally even.		34. R to B sq (ch)	K to Kt 3rd
14. B to B 4th	P to B 3rd	He goes into a pretty mating net, as will be seen later.	
15. P to B 4th	P to Q 3rd	35. B to Q 3rd (ch)	K to R 4th
16. P to Q 5th	B to K 3rd	36. P to K R 3rd	K to R 5th
17. P takes P	P takes P	37. K to R 2nd	B to K 2nd
18. R to B 3rd	B to Q 2nd	38. R to B 7th	K to R 4th
19. B to B 2nd	Kt to B 4th	39. P takes P (ch)	B takes P
20. Kt to Q 2nd	K R to Q B sq	40. R to B 4th	R to K Kt sq
	P to Q Kt 4th	41. Q R takes B	R takes R
		42. B to K 2nd	B to Kt 4th
		White wins.	

A chess correspondence match, to commemorate Coronation year, is proposed to be held between England and Ireland, one hundred aside. Competitors must be natives of either country, but their present residence is immaterial. One game will be played by each, and there is no entrance fee. Names of players will be received for Ireland by Mrs. Rowland, 6, Rus in Urbe, Kingstown, Ireland; and for England by Mr. Dancer, Mullion, Cornwall.

PINTORICCHIO: PAINTER AND DECORATOR.

Bernardino di Betto was his name in baptism; Bernardino Perugino he was sometimes termed in contemporary studios, for he had been born in Perugia. But Pintoricchio he was commonly called, in allusion to his personal insignificance; and if the nickname sticks, it has this excellent justification—that it makes a clear distinction between Bernardino Perugino, the disciple, and Perugino, his friend and employer. Vasari says of Pintoricchio that he was "a favourite of fortune." One wonders how. Sympathetic and arresting as his face—painted in fresco by himself—may appear to the modern visitor to Sta. Maria Maggiore at Spello, the type is common enough to the period. If his face was not his fortune, still less so was his diminutive figure. He had neither prestige of birth nor that tranquil domesticity which is supposed to compensate the humble for such glitter as the middle class forgoes. Grania, his wife in the end, brought him neither honour nor credit; and the two sons he had, who were not hers, did not rise up to call him blessed. The rewards that came to him from his craft were not enormous. "I, Bernardino, of Perugia, otherwise Pintoricchio, bind myself to paint an altarpiece for Friar Giovanni, of Verona, for the sum of fifty florins in Sieneze money"—an altarpiece showing a lovely Virgin, a lovely landscape, trees, cherubs, and two saints—and all this for fifty florins in 1510, at a far advanced stage of his career. From Vasari, then, we must take it that, in his opinion, Pintoricchio had the fortune of more and greater patrons than his talents merited; and against that opinion the monumental volume just published in English and French and Italian is, in effect, a protest that is overwhelmingly convincing.

Let us admit at once that Pintoricchio was fortunate in such patrons as Alexander VI., Julius II., Cesare Borgia, and Pandolfo Petrucci; fortunate, too, in such contemporaries and friends as Perugino, Sodoma, Bramante, Michael Angelo and Raphael, even though these last two were to throw him into the shade in the estimation of great Cardinals and connoisseurs, who thought of him as a mere craftsman, a decorator, in comparison with them; fortunate, too, he is, though Vasari did not dream of it, in the admiration, keen and strong, felt to-day for his work, even by multitudes who do not, like Signor Ricci, secure to Raphael his former high place in the heavens of Italian art. Fortunate we are in having in our National Gallery that memorable "Return of Ulysses," which marks the high tide of Umbrian art. There is the sentiment, the conscious grace, the careful abandonment of attitude; but the dancing-master saints, angels, and Deity even, had not yet come with Raphael. The simplicities still reigned; and the richness of Raphael did not make amends for the loss of them. Never was anything so adult and yet so innocent as Penelope and the other women of Pintoricchio—no, not even the expression once noted by Thoreau in the eye of a woodland bird. Were Grania such a one, did not her face belie her story? Ulysses is gay, as the men of this painter commonly are, and he has that air, partly confiding, partly confident, which belongs to Pintoricchio, and to him alone—a hall-mark of his mind as of his manner. Of the romance in his shipping, in the landscape, in the atmosphere—a romance which we associate only with him, and with one other, Carpaccio, nothing need be said to those to whom it makes its appeal, and certainly no words would avail with those who have not felt its appeal. Books do not bear re-reading; but a picture like the "Ulysses" can be seen with an eye of perpetual freshness; and, when we have seen it, we feel that we have re-read unfatigued the charmed sea-romances of youth and maturity, "Robinson Crusoe" and "The Wrecker."

Very discreet as a painter he was; discreeter than in his life. His greatest patrons were Popes, one of them a Pope never cited by the members of his Church for sanctity. Yet some of the most ineffably sweet visions of Heavenly beauty result from the commissions given by Alexander VI. to Pintoricchio. The decorations in the Borgia apartments in the Vatican fell into decay, partly, no doubt, because of Julius the Second's detestation of the character of his predecessor, and were so left, still partly perhaps from the general wish to forget and ignore a name of otherwise unhallowed associations. But Leo XIII., and no shame to him, has not allowed Pintoricchio's art to suffer for Borgia's morals; and the restoration of the rooms containing some of the greatest efforts of his brush has brought Pintoricchio into new fame. Perhaps Leo XIII. remembered that, after all, when the character of Borgia is under discussion, it is the reproof of him by a Pontiff which is the strongest count in the indictment of his youthful irregularities, when, as the nephew of Pope Calixtus III., he became, at twenty-five, a Cardinal. "It is reported," Pope Pius II. severely wrote to him after his uncle's death, "there is no talk save of your frivolous dealings, which have become the byword of all. Our displeasure is unspeakable, seeing that this tends to the dishonour of the estate and office of religion. Through your misdoing we are censured; and wrong is done to the happy memory of your uncle, Calixtus." It was this Borgia who, when he became Pope, was the instrument by which Pintoricchio's heavenly "St. Barbara" and "St. Catherine" were given to the Vatican and to the world.

The reproductions, plain and coloured, in this beautiful book, "Pintoricchio: His Life, Work, and Time," by Corrado Ricci, from the Italian by Florence Simmonds (London: Heinemann), will be a revelation to all but very travelled and investigating eyes. Those in colour, it may be said, are much the least successful, for, while black-and-white gives no clue to the colour of the originals, these do worse by falsifying it. Pintoricchio has been less reproduced and less written about than perhaps any other artist of achievement such as his; an omission now repaired, and even to be counted as good fortune, if not to Pintoricchio himself this time, at least to the volume that illustrates his fame.

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symptoms of sickness. Injuries are unavoidable, and prompt attention to these may save life. An excellent work on first aid to animals in cases of accidents and ailments has been published by Elliman, Sons and Co., of Slough, England, giving information that will be of assistance in the emergencies that arise in every herd or flock. The volume contains 188 pages, with fifty illustrations, and devotes considerable space to poultry and dogs, as well as to the larger farm stock. A pleasing feature is the

clearness of the descriptions and the avoidance of technical terms. The treatments prescribed are remarkably simple, calling for the employment of such means as may be found ready to hand on any farm. In addition there is a set of illustrations, indicating the appearance of the most common diseases of horses, cattle, and sheep. Some valuable prescriptions are given for remedies that may be kept in store for immediate use. The care of horses and their treatment in the way of water and feed are discussed at some length. So highly was this book appreciated that Major-General Baden-Powell, in South Africa, that he has had each of the troop officers of the constabulary under his command supplied with a copy.

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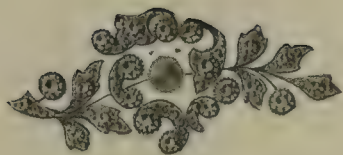
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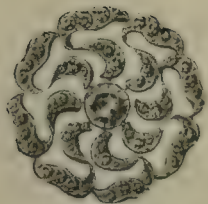
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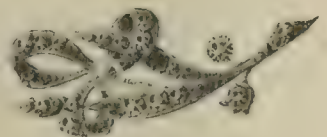
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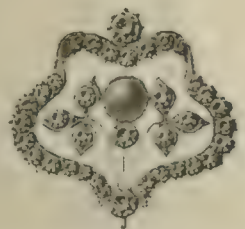
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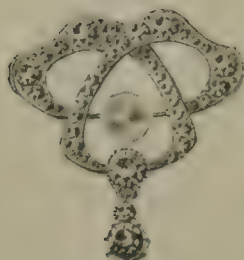
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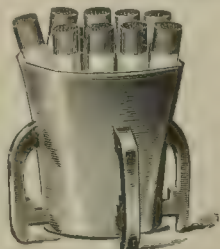
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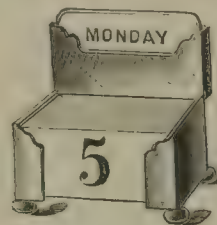
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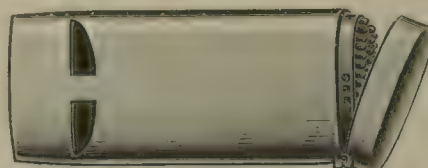
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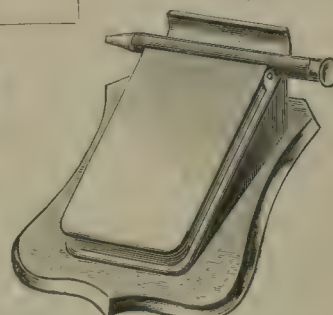
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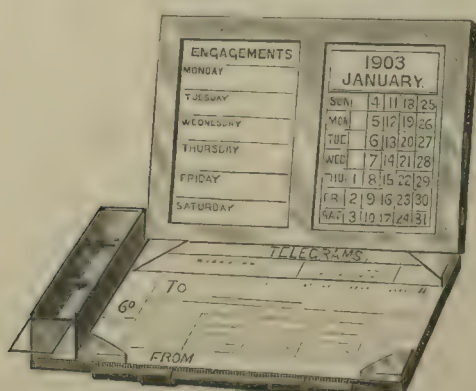
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MUSIC.

Undoubtedly the performance of greatest interest in the past week was that given on Saturday, Dec. 6, at the Queen's Hall, when there was introduced the latest orchestral work of Herr Richard Strauss. The composition is entitled "Ein Heldenleben," and was

'A Hero's Life' not a single poetical or historical figure, but rather a more general and free ideal of great and manly heroism—not the heroism to which one can apply an everyday standard of valour, with its material and exterior rewards, but that heroism which describes the inward battles of life, and which aspires, through effort and renouncement, towards the elevation of the

Henkel and Miss Eldina Bligh on Tuesday evening, Dec. 2, at the St. James's Hall, at which Miss Bligh, the clever violinist and pupil of Dr. Joachim, played beautifully the andante and finale from the E minor concerto of Mendelssohn. Madame Lily Henkel, who is a finished artist, played beautifully a prelude and two studies of Chopin; and Mr. Frederick Keel sang in his artistic,



Photo. A. Lundström.

THE PROHIBITION OF THE IMPORTATION OF FOREIGN CATTLE INTO ENGLAND—A TYPICAL SCENE ON A BUENOS AYRES RANCH: BRANDING DAY.

The day fixed for the branding is frequently observed as a holiday by the owner of the herd and his family, who make the occasion one for a picnic.

first given to the public in the March of 1899 at a concert of the Museum Society in Frankfurt. Herr Strauss announces it as a companion work to his brilliant "Don Quixote," and authorises the following description of its programme—a description, owing to its overwhelming complexities, every member of the audience welcomed gladly: "Having in this latter work sketched the tragi-comic figure of the Spanish knight whose vain search after heroism leads to insanity, he presents in

soul." Certainly, no more elaborate musical structure, built upon art-motifs, has ever been heard, not even excepting the Tetralogy of the "Nibelungen." At a first hearing, even after a preliminary close study of the score, it is impossible to do more than listen amazed and enthralled. The Queen's Hall orchestra came through the ordeal triumphantly under the bâton of Herr Strauss.

An interesting concert was given by Madame Lily

individual fashion some Elizabethan lyrics of his own composition and some folk-songs of Dorset and Somerset arranged by Mr. C. A. Lidgley.

Among other interesting concerts was one, arranged for two pianos, given on Friday afternoon by Mr. Leonard Borwick and Mr. Donald Tovey. It was apparent that Mr. Leonard Borwick was by far the greater artist, and not infrequently Mr. Tovey's time and weakness of tone marred the other duettist's performance.—M.I.H.

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ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

The extraordinary hold which Dr. Parker had upon the public was evident from the overwhelming demand for tickets of admission to the funeral service. On the Sunday following the great preacher's death, the Rev. C. H. Kelly, who occupied the City Temple pulpit, announced that seat-holders should apply for tickets on the Tuesday evening, but on the Tuesday morning the seats had been already over-applied for, and the deacons were obliged to state that no further tickets could be distributed.

The "lying-in-state" at the City Temple on Wednesday of last week reminded Londoners of the scenes which took place at the Metropolitan Tabernacle after the death of Mr. Spurgeon. Mr. Spurgeon's coffin was brought from Mentone and placed under the platform from which he had so often addressed congregations numbering many thousands. For a whole day men and women were streaming into the Tabernacle, and a force of police was constantly on duty to regulate their entrance and departure. Mr. Gladstone's coffin also lay in state in Westminster Hall for several days before his funeral, and was visited by enormous crowds, all of whom were dressed in mourning.

The memorial sermons for Dr. Parker were preached by the Rev. J. H. Jowett and the Rev. R. J. Campbell. Each of these distinguished ministers is well known to the City Temple congregation, Mr. Jowett having preached several times during Dr. Parker's holiday, while Mr. Campbell has been taking the Thursday morning service for the past six weeks. It was noticeable that on both Sundays following the death of Dr. Parker the note

of gloom was conspicuously absent from his people's worship. He himself had a great dislike to funeral hymns and doleful anthems.

The Rev. Alfred Poynter was last week instituted into the living of Whitechapel by the Bishop of London. As Vicar of St. Michael's, Burleigh Street, he did much good

work, especially amongst young men, and as he takes an interest in the welfare of the Jewish population of East London, he is the right man in the right place at Whitechapel.

The Bishop of Carlisle has returned to Rose Castle, his residence in Cumberland, in much improved health, after a holiday of several weeks, which he spent in the South of England.

The Rev. H. G. Grey, Principal of Wycliffe Hall, is anxious to resume missionary work in India. At the urgent request of the Council, he has, however, undertaken to remain at Wycliffe Hall for two years longer.

Bishop Goe occupied the pulpit of St. George's, Bloomsbury, on Sunday morning, after an absence of fifteen years. His voice is still remarkably strong and sonorous, and on Sunday members of the congregation looked up with something like surprise at his venerable face fringed with white hair. Dr. Goe referred to the ten happy years he had spent as Rector of St. George's, and said that he recognised here and there among his audience those with whom he was accustomed to worship in days gone by.

The Rev. Stephen Barrass has secured the help of a remarkable number of Bishops in connection with the week-day Advent services at the church of St. Lawrence Jewry. The Bishop of Stepney opened the series on Monday, Dec. 1, and future preaching arrangements include the Bishop of London on the 15th, Bishop Taylor-Smith on the 16th, the Bishop of Kensington on the 17th, the Bishop of Hokkaido (Japan) on the 18th, Bishop Montgomery on the 22nd, and the Bishop of Barking on the 23rd.



Photo, Helsby.

ACCOMMODATION FOR TRAVELLERS BY EARLY WORKMEN'S TRAINS:
ALL HALLOWS SHELTER FOR MEN, LONDON WALL.

The new shelter is an extension to the Church of All Hallows. The Rector, the Rev. Montague Fowler, has made a special appeal for funds to carry on the work. The institution will provide shelter for workers who come to town by early trains and have several hours to wait before going to their occupation.

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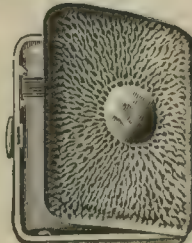
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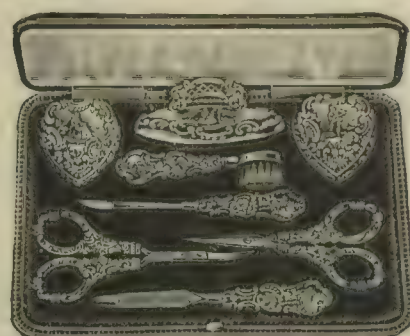
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CHRISTMAS RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS.

The Midland Railway will run cheap excursion trains from London (St. Pancras) and principal provincial stations to Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Dundee, Aberdeen, etc., on Wednesday, Dec. 24, for four, five, or seven days, and on Wednesday, Dec. 31, for four or seven days, by which return tickets will be issued at about a third-class single fare for the double journey. The single-fare tickets will be available for returning on any day within sixteen days from and including the date of issue. Cheap excursion trains will also be run from London (St. Pancras) on Wednesday, Dec. 24, to Leicester, Birmingham, Nottingham, Derby, Newark, Lincoln, Burton, Manchester, Liverpool, Blackburn, Bolton, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, York, Scarborough, Newcastle, Barrow-in-Furness, and the Lake District, etc., returning Dec. 27, 28 (where train service permits), 29, or Jan. 1. Cheap excursion tickets will be issued from London (St. Pancras) and principal provincial stations on Tuesday, Dec. 23, to Dublin, Cork, Killarney, Limerick, etc., via Liverpool, available for sixteen days, and on Monday, Dec. 22, via Morecambe, available for returning on Dec. 27 or 30, and Jan. 1, 3, or 6, 1903. Cheap week-end tickets will be issued on Fridays, Dec. 19 and 26, and Saturdays, Dec. 20 and 27, from St. Pancras and other Midland stations to the principal holiday and health resorts in England and Scotland.

The Great Northern Railway have made special and complete arrangements for the collection, quick transit, and prompt delivery of Christmas parcels to and from all towns on their system. Through vans will be attached to many of the express trains, and special parcels trains will also be run to meet the additional demands made upon the company at this period of the year. The reduced rates which are now in operation for the conveyance of parcels traffic are in no case higher

than the rates by Parcel Post, while in some cases they are lower than the latter. The minimum weight formerly charged on packages of perishables at "owner's risk" rates have been abolished, and these parcels are now charged at actual weight. Special frequent collections of parcels will be made from receiving offices in London and the provinces by the company's vans, and the traffic will be despatched by first trains after receipt. Full particulars as to charges, which will in no case exceed those in force by any other route, can be obtained at the Great Northern stations.

We have received a copy of an A B C programme issued by the Great Central Railway Company announcing their Christmas and New Year excursion arrangements from London (Marylebone), Woolwich, Greenwich, and Metropolitan stations to the Midlands, North of England, and Ireland. Full particulars of times of starting, fares, dates, and times of return, etc., for any station (alphabetically arranged) can be seen at a glance, which is a great advantage, and this is another of the new features introduced by the Great Central Company. Copies can be obtained free on application at Marylebone Station, or at any of the company's town offices and agencies.

For the convenience of those wishing to visit home, etc., during the coming Christmas holidays, the London and South Western Railway Company announce special excursions, additional and late trains from London (Waterloo), and certain suburban stations, to Hants, Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, Cornwall, the Isle of Wight, Channel Islands, Paris, etc., full particulars of which are given in the programme issued by the company, to be obtained at any of their stations and offices, or upon receipt of postcard will be forwarded by the Superintendent of the Line, Waterloo Station, S.E. Special cheap excursions will leave Waterloo Station

and certain suburban stations as under: To Paris, via Southampton, Havre, and Rouen, on Dec. 22, 23, and 24, for fourteen days or less. On Tuesday, Dec. 23, and Wednesday, Dec. 24, to Exeter, Exmouth, Okehampton, Tavistock, Devonport, Plymouth, Holsworthy, Bude, Launceston, Wadebridge, Padstow, Bodmin, Torrington, Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Lynton, Bideford, Honiton, etc. Additional and late trains conveying passengers at ordinary fares will leave Waterloo Station as follows: At 9.50 p.m. for Weymouth on Dec. 22, 23, 24, and 26, and at 8.30 p.m. on Christmas Day. On Tuesday, Dec. 23, at 11.45 p.m., for Salisbury, Yeovil, Exeter, and intermediate stations. On Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 5.40, 5.50 p.m., and 1.0 midnight for Exeter, Crediton, Okehampton, Tavistock, Devonport, Plymouth, and certain intermediate stations; at 5.50 p.m. and 12.55 midnight for Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Bideford, Torrington, and other North Devon stations. On Christmas Day at 5.50 a.m. for Exeter, Tavistock, Devonport, Plymouth, Ilfracombe, Barnstaple, Torrington, Bideford, Honiton, Axminster, Yeovil, Salisbury, Southampton West, Brockenhurst, Bournemouth, Poole, Swanage, Dorchester, Weymouth, etc.; at 7.55 a.m. for Christchurch, Bournemouth, Lymington, Yarmouth, Botley, Fareham, Gosport, Portsmouth, Romsey, Isle of Wight, etc.; at 7.55 and 9.45 a.m. for Farnborough, Basingstoke, Winchester, Eastleigh, Southampton, etc.; at 8.35 a.m. for Guildford, Petersfield, Portsmouth, etc. The period of availability of ordinary return tickets will be extended. Special arrangements have been made for the conveyance of parcels.

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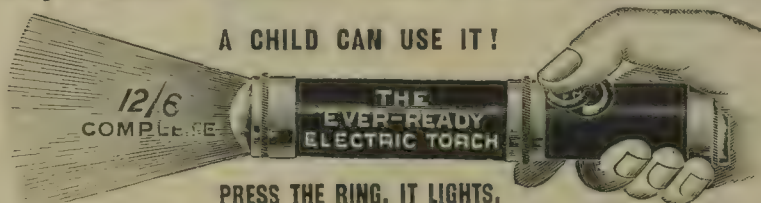
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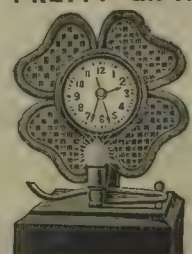
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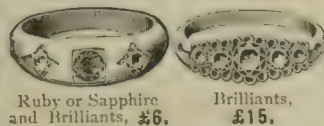
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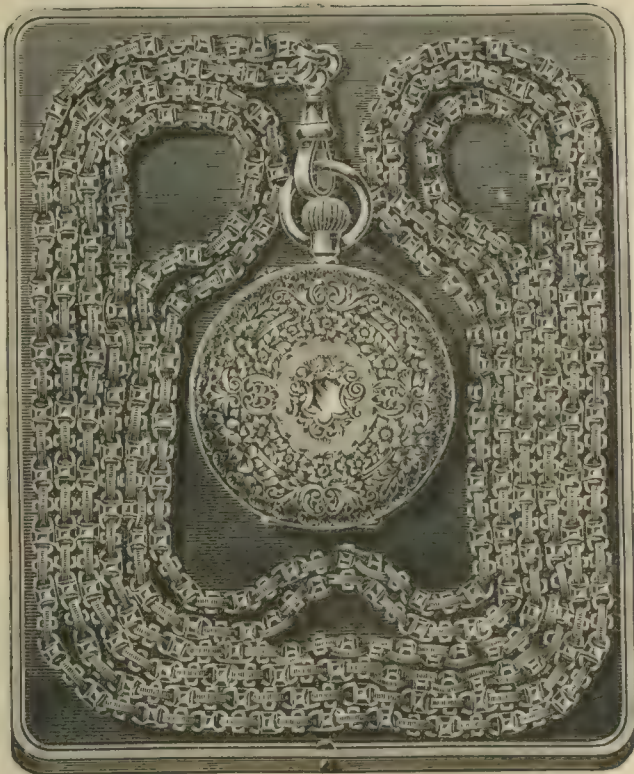
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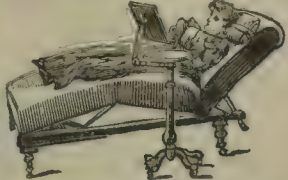
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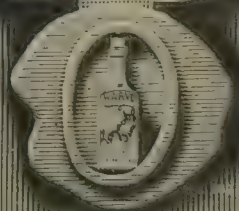


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ART NOTES.

The English portion of Sir Cuthbert Quilter's comprehensive collection is now on view at Messrs. Lawrie and Co.'s Galleries in Bond Street. These representative pictures are lent that the shillings of visitors may go to the aid of the King's Hospital Fund. There is no great need of charitable intention to attract many to so interesting a collection. Constable is here represented by, among others, a uniquely excellent portrait-group of his sisters. This artist has often revealed to a certain degree the qualities of a portrait-painter, but in this example he has approached his subject with great mastery of composition and colour. From Turner to Holman Hunt and Reynolds to Millais, the masters of English art here find place.

Mr. Bernard Partridge exhibits at the Fine Art Society a collection of paintings and drawings. The slighter art of draughtsmanship rather than the more serious one of painting is, in the hands of Mr. Partridge, the more significant. That he paints to recreate himself is the impression this exhibition gives: his methods of expression in colour, whether it be oil, water-colour, or pastel, are many and various—experimental, in fact

while, with his black-and-white medium, he is extremely and consistently familiar. He possesses in his pen-and-ink work the rare combination of grace—in his illustration of eighteenth-century characters—and facial expression, found in his *Punch* cartoons, to a quite remarkable degree. With the art of depicting expression goes the faculty of catching likenesses, and on these walls are excellent portraits of such various personalities as Mr. *Punch* and Lord Rosebery, Sir Henry Irving, and "G. B. S."

At the winter exhibition of works by artists of British and foreign schools, at Mr. McLean's Gallery in the Haymarket, the good and the bad are, as usual, rather miscellaneous mixed. The small canvas by M. L'Hermitte entitled, "Harvest-Time," is singularly beautiful, and renews one's satisfaction in getting back to the origins of a school of painting in which this master has, both luckily and unluckily, secured many disciples. Mr. Brangwyn contributes to our accustomed eyes so new a view of Venice that one ponders over the possibility of a misprint in the careful catalogue. The safer presumption is that somewhere in Venice Mr. Brangwyn discovered an isolated vignette that recalled to him with

the enchantment lent to the view by distance, a black patch of London wharf. In the large canvas by Harpignies, "On the Loire," we have, as it were, a magnified and necessarily a coarse Corot, but with its own beauties. Dutch subjects are handled with a charm of feeling by B. J. Blommers that is in contrast with neighbour canvases illustrating the glaring effronteries of modern derivers from Fortuny. By Fortuny himself is "An Arab Encampment," interesting as being one of his more experimental pictures. Joseph Bail (not an Englishman in his work) just misses the triumph in "The Chef."


The presentation plate issued to members of the Art Union of London this year is an engraving after "The Fold Yard," by Yeend King, V.P.R.I. It is excellently etched by C. O. Murray, R.P.E., and is characteristic of the artist's best work. The address of the publishers is 112, Strand.

Messrs. Bright and Son, 164, Strand, have just issued a fifth edition of their "Descriptive, Priced Catalogue of the World's Postage Stamps." It includes the adhesive stamps and stamped stationery of the whole world.



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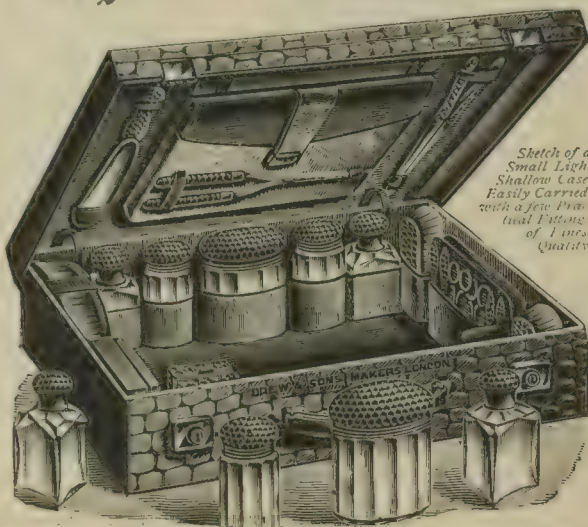
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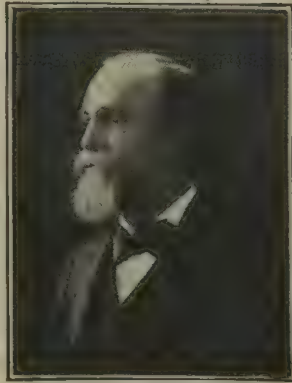
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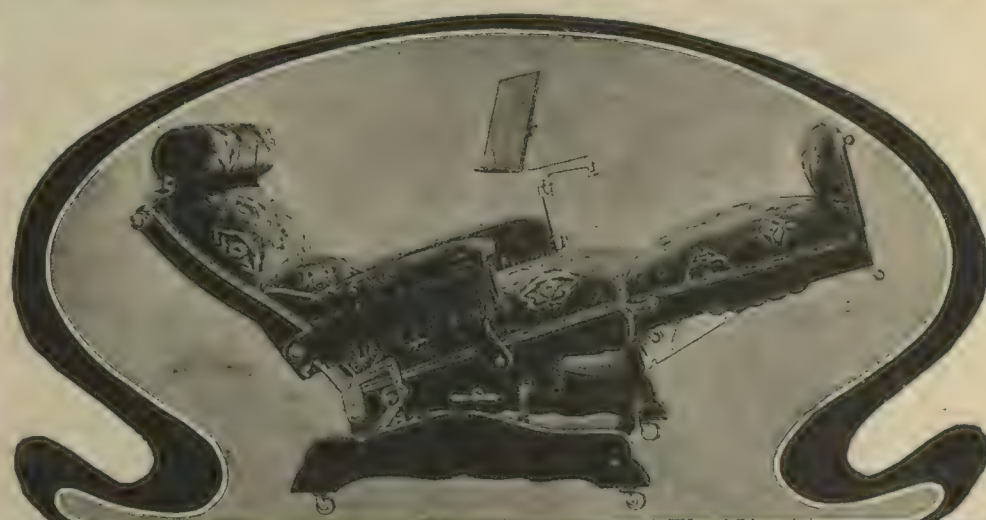
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WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will (dated Nov. 13, 1896), with five codicils (dated Nov. 1, 1897, Feb. 8 and Oct. 9, 1899, March 25, 1900, and April 16, 1902), of Mr. George Wightwick Rendel, of 2, Palace Court, Bayswater, and Broadlands, Isle of Wight, who died on Oct. 9, was proved on Nov. 28 by Henry Neville Gladstone, John Henry Brunel Noble, and Thomas William Thompson, the executors, the value of the estate amounting to £370,238. The testator gives £11,000 to his household furniture and effects, and an annuity of £5000 to his wife, Mrs. Licinia Rendel, with power of appointment over a sum of £20,000 in favour of her children or remoter issue; £12,000, in trust, for his sons Lewis, Cecil George, Stuart Armstrong, and Clement Noble; £2500 to his sister Edith Hebler; £3750 each to the two children of his deceased son Leopold Joseph; £2000 to Mrs. Annie Steward; and legacies to executors and servants. All his real and the residue of his personal

estate he leaves, in trust, for his children by his wife, Licinia, the share of each son to be double that of each daughter.

The will (dated March 25, 1902) of Mr. Hamilton Owen Rendel, of 7, Sydenham Terrace, Newcastle, and of Messrs. Armstrong, Whitworth, and Co., the Elswick Works, who died on Sept. 17, has been proved by Mrs. Emily Catherine Wedgwood, the sister, and Francis Hamilton Wedgwood and Ralph Lewis Wedgwood, the nephews, the value of the real and personal estate being £195,203. The testator bequeaths £38,000 to his nephew Francis Hamilton Wedgwood; £20,000 to his sister Edith Hebler; £15,000 and five thousand £1 shares in Armstrong, Whitworth, and Co., to his niece Cecily Frances Wedgwood; one thousand shares each to his nephews, Clement Hebler, Roland Stuart Hebler, and Adolphus Henry Hebler; two thousand shares to his niece, Jessie Hebler; and £3000 to his niece Ethel Kate

Wedgwood. The residue of his property he leaves to his sister, Mrs. Wedgwood.

The will (dated July 17, 1902) of Mr. William Bird, J.P., D.L., of Bute House, Hammersmith, who died on Oct. 4, was proved on Nov. 25 by Anthony Bird Nunes and Arthur Bingham Watson, two of the executors, the value of the estate being £158,321. The testator appoints a sum not exceeding £1200, and he bequeaths his surgical instruments and medical books, to the West London Hospital. He further gives all his stocks and shares, money in the house and at his bankers, and the household furniture to his nephew Anthony Bird Nunes; conditional annuities of £500 to Robert Bird, £100 to Selina Taunton, £100 to Irene Hardy, £100 to Maud Peniston Bird; £100 to Mrs. Georgiana Teévan, and £150 to Hilda Mary Peniston; his share of certain property under the will of his grandfather to the daughters of Edward and Rachel Bird; and

MERRYWEATHERS

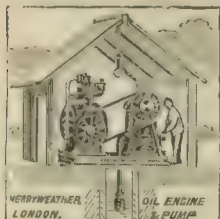
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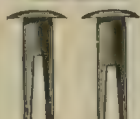
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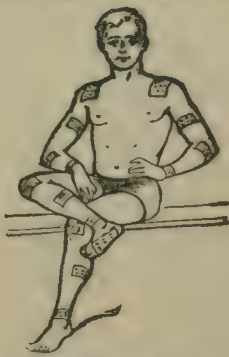
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relieve immediately by preventing pressure and cure within a short time by extracting the corn.

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Without any Turns or Twists.

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Shade Cards on Application.

The Spat Puttee has been adopted by the War Office for Officers' wear.
The "HEAVY" Weight or "REGULATION" Quality is the same as now
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No Measurements
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Will Fit any Leg.

Made of All Wool.

A Most Comfortable
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other legacies. The residue of his property he leaves, upon various trusts, for Anthony Bird Nunes for life, and then for his children.

The will (dated July 6, 1882) of Sir Charles William Cuffe Burton, Bart., J.P., D.L., of Pollacton, Carlow, who died on Oct. 2, was proved on Nov. 28 by William Rochfort, Dame Georgina Mary Burton, the widow, and Lord Rathdonnell, the executors, the value of the estate being £62,347. The testator gives £1000 and his wines, horses and carriages, to his wife; £1000 each, in trust, for Mary Katherine Norah Burton and Gertrude Mary Burton; and £50 to his steward, Thomas Whelan. The Pollacton and North Strand estates, and all other his property, he settles on his wife for life, with remainder to his first and other sons, with remainder to his daughters, with remainder over to his niece Grace Ellen Burton and her children.

The will (dated Nov. 24, 1896), with four codicils (dated Nov. 24, 1896; July 9, 1898; Jan. 30, 1901; and

Sept. 19, 1902), of Colonel William Bachelier Coltman, for some years commanding officer of the Inns of Court Rifle Volunteers, of 13, Queen's Gate Gardens, and Deskrie, Aberdeenshire, who died on Oct. 22, was proved on Nov. 27 by Mrs. Bertha Elizabeth Shore Coltman, the widow, and William Hew Coltman and Thomas Lister Coltman, the sons, the value of the estate being £26,905, so far as at present can be ascertained. The testator bequeaths £500, the furniture in his London house, and the live and dead stock, crops, etc., on his farms in Lincoln and Scotland, to his wife; £2000, in trust, for his daughter Mary Urith Frederica Coltman; his interest in the premises 345 and 347, Gray's Inn Road, and 1A, Liverpool Street, to his son William Hew; his leasehold stables, and, on the decease of Mrs. Coltman, £1000 to his son Thomas Lister; and £100 each to his brother Francis Joseph Coltman and his sister Dame Charlotte Clarke. The residue of his property he leaves upon such trusts as

his wife and son William shall appoint, and in default thereof to his wife, for life, and then as she shall appoint to his children.

The will (dated July 3, 1902) of Sir Frederick Augustus Abel, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., of 2, Whitehall Court, who died on Sept. 6, was proved on Dec. 2 by Arthur George Bloxam, the nephew, and George Laurie Mackeson, two of the executors, the value of the estate being £21,082. The testator gives £3000 to Luise Aspasia Abel; £2000 to Carl Frederick Abel-Pantin; £1000 each to his nieces Mary Caroline, Eleanor Emma, Frances Ann, and Gertrude Anderson; £2000 to Carlota G. Mackeson; £1000 to his godson, Leopold Field; £500 each to his nieces Alice Augusta, Charlotte Torpit, Frederica Louise, and Emily Pantin; £500 each to Elfriede M. Pantin, Annie Schoop, and Genlietta Waud; and other gifts. The residue of his property he leaves between Luise Aspasia Abel and Carl Frederick Abel-Pantin.

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If you use VINOLIA SOAP you will never suffer from blotches on the face, as it contains no free alkali and no putrefactive germs to irritate the skin and spoil the complexion.

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LEE-ENFIELD TARGET RIFLES, £5 15s. to £10 10s.
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MINIATURE TARGET RIFLES from 12s. to £12.
SPECIAL TARGET RIFLES FOR SHORT RANGE SHOOTING.
Price Lists post free on application.

Jeffery's Target and Sporting Rifles are unsurpassed for Accuracy and Shooting. At Bisley, in 1898, Jeffery's Rifles and Rifles sighted by them won Seven First Prizes in the Seventeen Competitions for Marksmanship. In 1898, in the International Competition, the highest score was made with a Jeffery's Mannlicher, five points more than the next score. In the only Competition for Sporting Rifles at Fixed Targets, Jeffery's Rifles won First, Second, Third and Fifth Prizes. The highest possible score has been made with a Jeffery's Lee-Enfield Target Rifle.

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Whatever other pen you handle, you will not get the same perfect result. No stopping, jerking, blotting, smudging—it just goes on writing—keeps on writing. It makes writing easy and the writer into a Dip-no-more.
From 10/6, of Stationers, Jewellers, &c.
IN SILVER and GOLD for PRESENTATIONS.
L. & C. HARDTMUTH, 12, Golden Lane, LONDON, E.C.



THE "ORIGINAL" AND ONLY GENUINE.
A Delicious Dish at a Moment's Notice.
OF ALL GROCERS.

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INDIAN CURRIES

Chicken, Rabbit, Mutton, Lobster, Prawns, Sauce, Powder, Chutnee, Paste.
THE "ORIGINAL" AND ONLY GENUINE!

A Laxative and Refreshing Fruit Lozenge, most agreeable to take.

TAMAR INDIEN GRILLON,

FOR

CONSTIPATION,

Hæmorrhoids,
Bile, Headache,
Loss of Appetite,
Gastric and Intestinal Troubles.

67, SOUTHWARK BRIDGE RD., London, S.E.
Sold by all Chemists.—A Box, 2s. 6d.

The *Lancet*, Oct. 12, 1880, says: "The medicament most pleasant to children, the Tamar Indien, is absent. An aperient which is as good as a bonbon from Boissier or Siraudin is so typical of French refinement and elegance in the little things of life that it certainly should have held a prominent place."

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POWELL'S BALSAM OF ANISEED.

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Safe and Reliable.
Gives Immediate Relief.

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As an additional precaution see that the Trade (a Red "P" in a Diamond) is printed on every



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Name and Address of nearest Wine Merchant on application to—

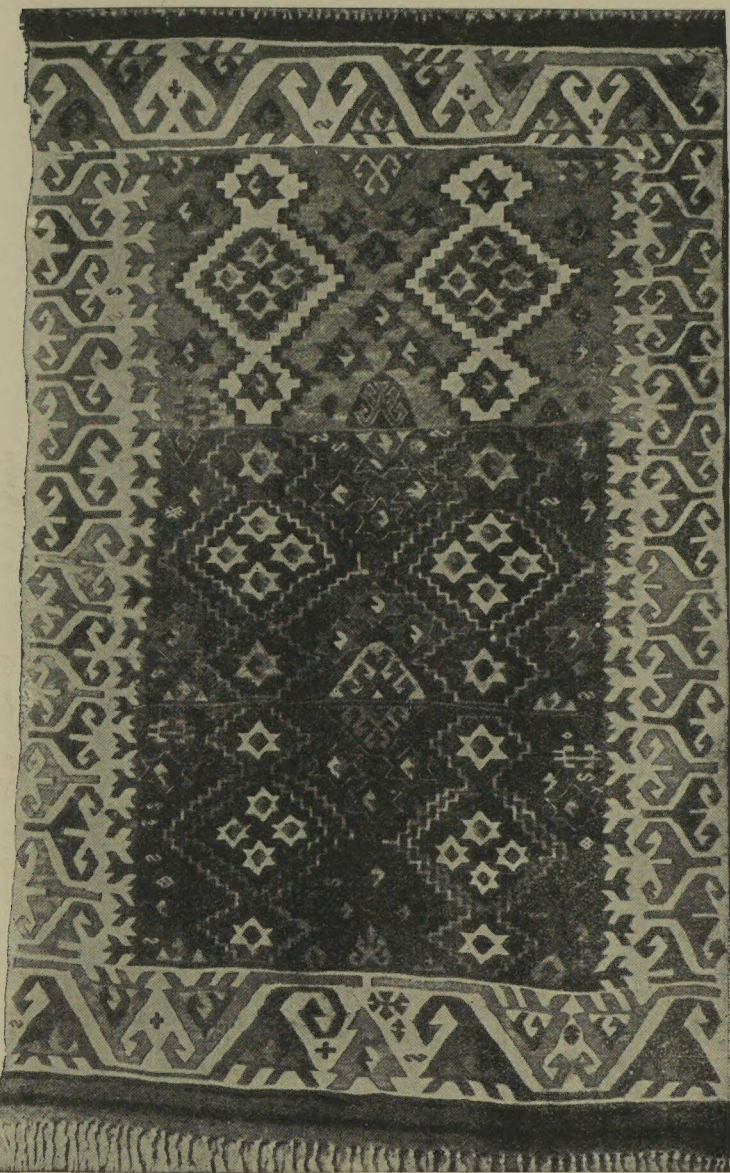
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Antique Koula Rugs.

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Thick Pile.

Old Daghestans.

Mellowed in Colour.

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Fine Selection.

Anatolian Kelims.

Used also as Portières.

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As shown in illustration.

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Close Textures.

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Fine Examples.

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Artistic.

Shipments of Turkey, Persian, and Indian Carpets are also delivered to our Warehouse two or three times every week.

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DR. SIEGERT'S ANGOSTURA BITTERS.

DR. HASSALL, the great authority on Food, writes:—

"I have carefully analysed a sample of the well-known ANGOSTURA BITTERS of Messrs. SIEGERT & HIJOS. I find that they consist of a mixture of certain bitter, aromatic, and carminative substances, together with alcohol, added as a preservative and solvent, and that they are altogether free from admixture with any dangerous or deleterious compound, as strychnine for example, so commonly present in what are termed 'Pick-me-ups.' These Bitters constitute, in fact, a very useful and wholesome tonic when employed in suitable cases."

"ARTHUR HILL HASSALL, M.D."

Author of "Food, and its Adulterations," "Adulterations Detected," and late Editor of "Food, Water, and Air."

Of all Wine Merchants, &c.

CENTRAL DEPOT: **KÜHNER HENDERSON & CO., 115, Cannon St., E.C.**

A Perfect . . .
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"GOLDEN PELICAN"

COOL SMOKING.

"'Golden Pelican' Tobacco . . . is pleasantly flavoured and not too strong for the average smoker." "The Major" in "10-DAY."

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Reduction in Price of Welsbach Mantles.

these standard Mantles are now on sale at all Stores, Gasfitters, and Ironmongers at

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The quality has been improved. When buying insist upon having the genuine.

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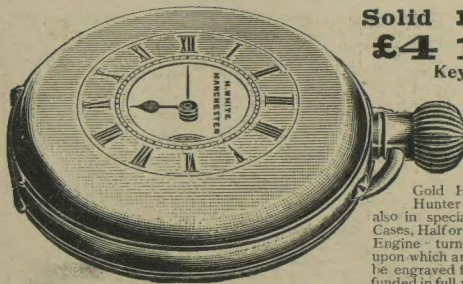
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The "COUNTY" Watch.
Solid 14-ct. Gold.
£4 17s. 6d.
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should any article fail to please. Either Watch sent at the H. White Manufacturing Co.'s own risk on receipt of Cheque, P.O. draft. A Certificate of Warranty accompanies each Watch.

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Combines scientific simplicity with the highest efficiency and absolute safety.

For the cure of Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Colds, Catarrh, Congestions, Kidney, Liver, Skin and Blood Diseases, Obesity and Stomach troubles, no other treatment is so effective. There is hardly a disease that can resist the power of heat. It opens the pores, removes the poisonous impurities, cures chronic diseases, prevents sickness, promotes circulation, clears the complexion, ensures perfect cleanliness and improves the general health. It is the only Cabinet with which the heater is used OUTSIDE, and is therefore the one

ABSOLUTELY SAFE

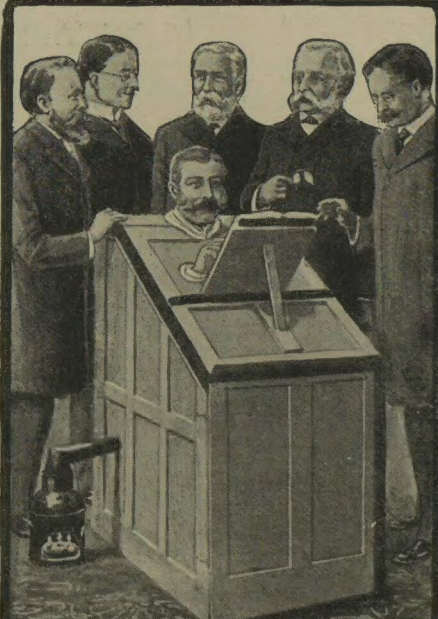
Cabinet with which Ladies and Gentlemen can enjoy privately at home the delights and benefits of either hot air, vapor, medicated or perfumed baths. No assistant is required. It can be used in any room, and folds into a small compact space when not in use.

Send for Catalogue No. 2. Post free.

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The DEAN OF CARLISLE writes:

"Sir,—I was almost beyond experience a martyr to gout for twenty-five years! I took LAVILLE'S medicines, which are simple and easy of application. I was cured completely and after nine years' trial I can affirm that they are a perfect specific and an innocent and beneficial remedy. I have tried them on friends in like circumstances, and they never fail.—I remain, yours truly,

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IS AN UNFAILING SPECIFIC FOR THE CURE OF GOUT AND RHEUMATISM.

ONE BOTTLE SUFFICIENT FOR TWO TO THREE MONTHS' TREATMENT.

Price 9s. per Bottle, of all Chemists. Wholesale Depot, F. COMAR and SON, 64, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.

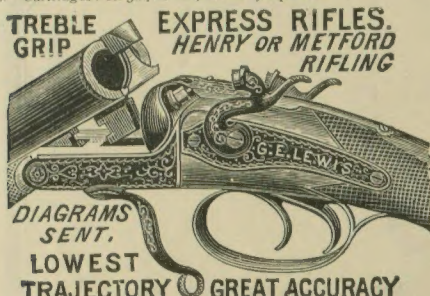
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HONOURS, PARIS, 1878; SYDNEY, 1879; MELBOURNE, 1880; CALCUTTA, 1884.

RIFLE CLUBS—Lee-Enfield, Lee-Enfield, Mannlicher or Mauser Rifles, from £6.

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RIFLES for Big Game Shooting, 4, 8, and 10 bores, 20 to 30 guineas; Double-Barrel Express Rifles, 350 to 577 bores, from 12 guineas. Singles from 8 guineas.

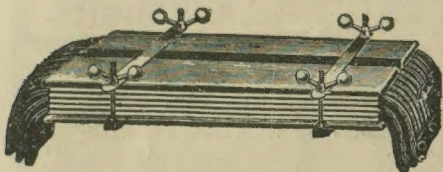
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Fitted with Everitt's Improved Top Board is perfection.

It is a necessity to every man who wishes to be well dressed.



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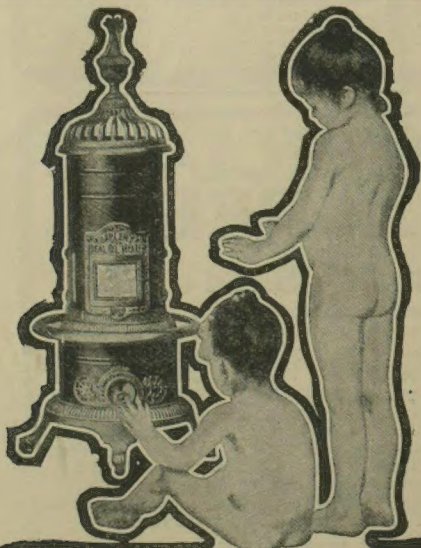
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To hold 4 pairs, 2/6. Postage, 4d.

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for warming Halls, Passages, Bedrooms, Bath-rooms, Nurseries, Conservatories, &c. Gives great heat—healthful heat—from little oil. No Smoke. No Smell. No Glass Chimney. New Burner and improved Oil Fountain. 80,000 in use. Satisfaction guaranteed. Prices from 21/- to 60/-

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THE OLDEST AND BEST AND BRITISH.

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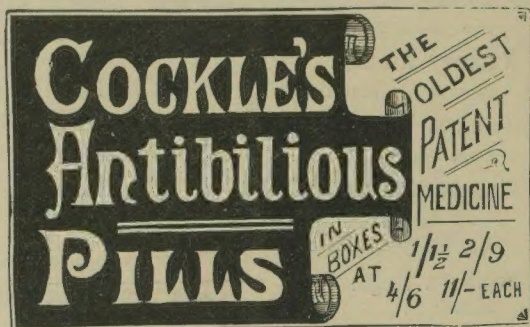
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PURVEYOR BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. THE KING.



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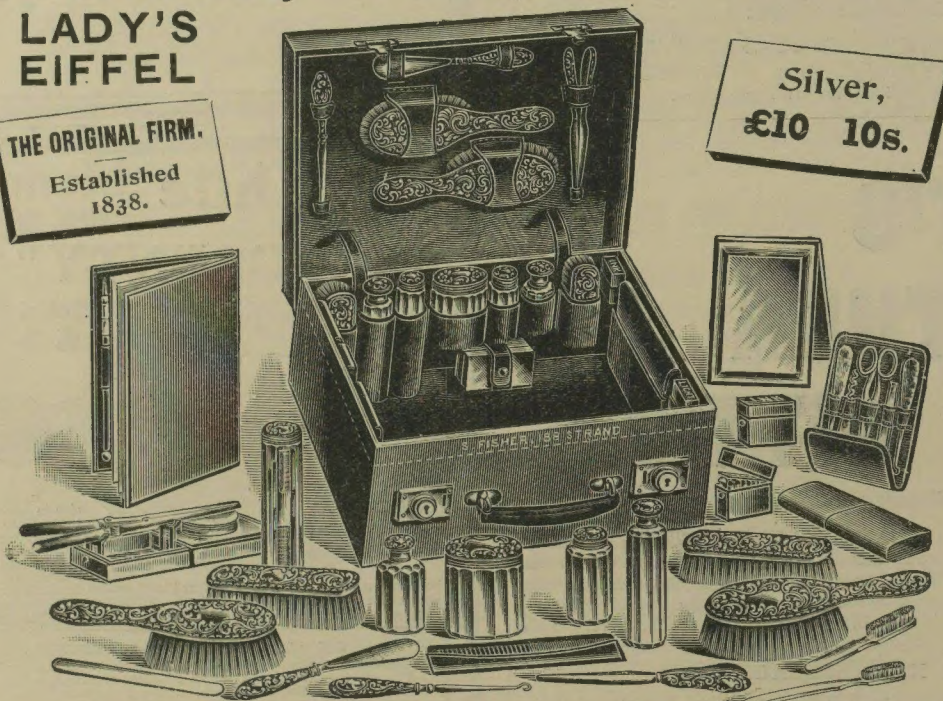
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These Imported Cases make most Acceptable Presents, and may be had of all Wine Merchants.

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Makes the Skin Soft as Velvet.

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Is Unequalled for Preserving THE SKIN & COMPLEXION

FROM THE EFFECTS OF FROST, COLD WINDS, AND HARD WATER.

IT ENTIRELY REMOVES AND PREVENTS ALL ROUGHNESS, REDNESS, TAN, IRRITATION, CHAPS, &c., AND KEEPS THE SKIN

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THE PUBLIC TASTE
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M^{me} ADELINA PATTI says:
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The **GRAND PRIX PARIS 1900** was awarded to
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A Laxative and Refreshing Fruit-Lozenge,
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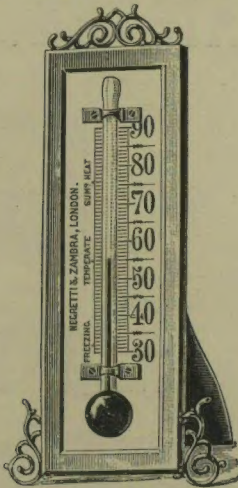
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Hæmorrhoids,
Bile, Headache,
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Sold by all Chemists.—A Box, 2s. 6d.

The *Lancet*, Oct. 12, 1889, says: "The medicament most
pleasant to children, the Tamar Indien, is absent. An
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Sterling Silver-Mounted THERMOMETERS, with
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TRADE MARK REGISTERED.
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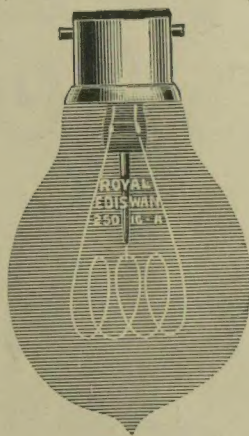


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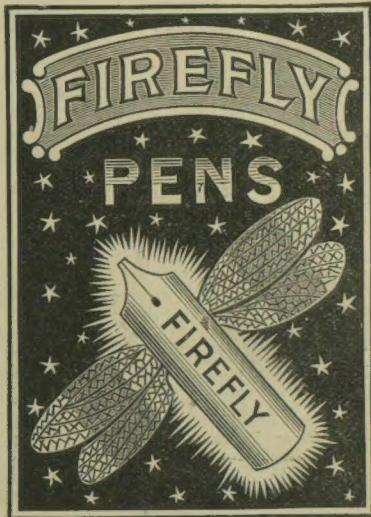
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